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Japan

Kaifu Agrees To Unfreeze Loan Package to PRC

OW1005131890 Tokyo KYODO in English 1301 GMT 10 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 10 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu told Japan Socialist Party [JSP] Secretary General Tsuruo Yamaguchi on Thursday that Japan will implement an 810 billion yen third loan package to China as promised. Kaifu made the remark at a meeting with Yamaguchi, who is due to visit China for eight days from May 18 as head of a party delegation, JSP officials said.

Kaifu was quoted as saying the Japanese Government is responsible for helping to establish an environment in which the loan could be implemented to everyone's satisfaction.

Yamaguchi called on Kaifu at the prime minister's official residence and urged the government to lift a freeze on the loan package.

The prime minister told the JSP leader that there is no problem in telling the Chinese that Japan will certainly honor its promise. Kaifu, however, pointed to difficulties in resuming aid immediately, noting the tough international sentiment against China particularly in the U.S. Congress, JSP officials said.

Japan promised to extend the yen loan package for 1990-95 in August 1988 when then Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita visited China. But Japan has frozen implementation of the loan since the military crackdown on the pro-democracy demonstrators in Beijing on June 4 last year.

Chinese Ambassador to Japan Yang Zheng, with whom Yamaguchi met Wednesday, asked the main opposition party to urge the Japanese Government to resume economic assistance to China.

Yamaguchi and his delegation will meet Song Ping, one of the six Standing Committee members of the Communist Party Politburo on May 18. He will meet Communist Party General Secretary Jiang Zemin probably the following day, JSP officials said.

The delegation will be the first sent by Japan's main opposition party to China after it froze ties with China in protest against the military crackdown.

Finance Official Pessimistic on Loans to PRC

OW1005125190 Tokyo KYODO in English 1213 GMT 10 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 10 KYODO—A high-ranking Finance Ministry official expressed pessimism Thursday over early resumption of Japan's loan package to China, on hold since last June when the Chinese military suppressed the student-led pro-democracy movement in Beijing. "It seems difficult for the heads of the Group of Seven (G-7) industrial nations to agree to unfreeze the Japanese loans at their meeting scheduled for July, let alone before the summit meeting," the official said. The official, who requested anonymity, also said there is little chance the major countries would resume loans after the summit.

Japan's outstanding loan package amounts to 810 billion yen.

He also expressed disapproval of approaches to Japan made by China outside diplomatic channels aimed at obtaining approval of a credit unfreeze. The remarks were at odds with those of Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto that Japan will reopen its third yen loans to China promised for 1990-95 before the summit meeting in Houston, Texas.

They are an indication of the ministry's frustration over China's failure to improve its relations with Western governments, which have been cool toward Beijing since the crackdown.

Uno Conveys Message From Li Peng to Kaifu

OW1005161790 Tokyo KYODO in English 1507 GMT 10 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 10 KYODO—Former Prime Minister Sousuke Uno visited Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu on Thursday and conveyed a message from Chinese Premier Li Peng calling on Kaifu to speak on behalf of China at the Houston summit of seven major economic powers in July, officials said.

In his message Li urged Kaifu to tell summit leaders that China continues to pursue reform and an open door policy. Kaifu told reporters after the 20-minute meeting with his predecessor that he does not know whether China will change by the time the summit is held and that he is waiting for a "signal" from China.

Uno visited China for five days from May 5 and met Chinese officials.

Agriculture Minister Accuses U.S. of 'Meddling'

OW1105105990 Tokyo KYODO in English 0847 GMT 11 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May ll, KYODO—Comments by U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Clayton Yeutter that liberalization of Japan's rice market was simply a matter of time are "an interference" in Japan's internal affairs, Tomio Yamamoto, Japan's minister of agriculture, forestry and fisheries, said Friday.

Yamamoto expressed his displeasure over remarks Yeutter made to Japanese reporters that the time and manner of opening Japan's rice market are the only matters that remain to be settled on the thorny trade issue. "It is unreasonable for the United States to talk as if Japan had already decided to open up the rice market," Yamamoto told reporters.

The agriculture minister also rejected Yeutter's contention that a successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Talks, due to finish by the end of the year, depends heavily on whether Japan is prepared to make dramatic changes regarding its rice market policy. "The talks, sponsored by the multilateral body, General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), should be distinguished from the bilateral trade talks between Japan and the United States," Yamamoto said.

"Japan is not patient enough to endure further meddling by U.S. Government officials in Japan's rice policy," Yamamoto added when asked about remarks by U.S. Trade Representative Carla Hills which also touched on the rice issue.

U.S. Urges 'Transparency' in Construction Market

OW1005175590 Tokyo KYODO in English 1506 GMT 10 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 10 KYODO—Japan and the United States agreed Thursday to continue talks on a further opening of the Japanese construction market to foreign firms at the end of a two-day review in Tokyo of progress in Japanese liberalization efforts over the past two years.

The United States called on Japan to ensure greater transparency in its designated bidding system for public works projects, and also urged Japan to broaden the scope of major projects to which exceptional measures, intended to help U.S. businesses enter the construction market, apply. The American officials made the call when they met Japanese officials Tuesday and Thursday for a review, made mainly on the basis of Japanese construction contracts awarded to U.S. enterprises in the past two years.

The U.S. asked Japan to apply the exceptional preferential treatment measures also to construction projects concerned with the resort law and the private resources utilization law. The U.S. also asked Japan to provide U.S. businesses with information on projects to which the exceptional treatment measures do not apply, such as construction work to be ordered by prefectural governments.

The Construction Ministry announced that foreign firms participated in a total of 212 construction projects in the five-year period from 1985 to 1989.

Of the total, 204 projects, about 90 percent, were concerned with designing and consulting services, 64 were concerned with the construction of resorts like golf courses, 94 with urban development, 30 with housing construction and 16 with regional development.

There were only eight cases in which foreign firms participated in construction work. By nation, the United States led with 145 cases, or about 70 percent of the total. Britain was a poor second with 19 cases, followed by Italy and France with 12 cases each. Foreign firms participated in projects in 32 prefectures. Foreign firms participated in some way in half of the 20 development projects to which the resort law applied.

Toyota Denies Blocking U.S. Advertisement

OW1105094390 Tokyo KYODO in English 0820 GMT 11 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 11 KYODO—Toyota Motor Corp. voiced surprise Friday at an accusation made by American businessman T. Boone Pickens that the auto company had pressured Japanese dailies to refrain from publishing his advertisment questioning the impact of interlocking relationships among Toyota affiliates in Japan.

A Toyota spokesman said the firm was not aware that Pickens was planning to issue an advertisement requesting information on the economic impact of Toyota's Keiretsu System, or corporate affiliations, on decisions made in the nation's corporate boardrooms and at stockholders' meetings.

Pickens is the largest stockholder of Koito Mfg. Co., a major automobile parts maufacturer affiliated with Toyota. He has been unsuccessful thus far in his attempts to win seats on the board of the Tokyo-based firm.

The spokesman said Toyota does not know what Pickens based his claims upon, and stressed that Toyota would not have attempted to quash his efforts to communicate with the Japanese public even if the company had been aware of his intentions.

The four dailies approached by Pickens were the MAINICHI SHIMBUN, YOMIURI SHIMBUN, NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN, and ASAHI SHIMBUN.

YOMIURI and MAINICHI said the charges made by Pickens were completely false, with the latter stating that it will place the ad in its upcoming Tuesday and Wednesday editions.

ASAHI said it had originally planned to print the ad during the "Golden Week" period, but postponed publication following a request by Pickens that it do so. An official at ASAHI said the firm plans to publish the ad sometime before Tuesday, while NIHON KEIZAI and YOMIURI said publication of the ad is still under review.

Cocom May Ease Controls for Communist Nations

OW0905125490 Tokyo KYODO in English 1136 GMT 9 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 9 KYODO—A Western organization regulating exports to communist nations will hold a meeting on June 6-7 in Paris to discuss a U.S. proposal to ease restrictive measures, government sources said Wednesday.

The sources said the U.S. has proposed to the Coordinating Committee for Export Controls (Cocom) the abolition or easing of more than 40 restrictive items, including certain categories of personal computers and optical communications equipment. The proposal is expected to be approved and implemented without revision as it is supported by major advanced nations, including Japan, the sources said.

The Paris session will be attended by subcabinet-level officials from 17 member countries.

The U.S. proposal calls for removal of 30 items from the restrictive list and easing regulations on 13 other goods, the sources said.

U.S. Trade Officials Comment

OW1105122090 Tokyo KYODO in English 1106 GMT 11 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 11 KYODO—U.S. trade officials on Friday told their Japanese counterparts that recent U.S. proposals to ease restrictions on trade with the East Bloc are intended to build "higher fences around fewer items," Foreign Ministry officials said. The U.S. Government announced on May 2 that it was recommending to the Coordinating Committee for Multilateral Export Controls (Cocom) that 30 items among 120 categories on its industrial list be exempted from its export ban.

Cocom is a Paris-based watchdog organization that monitors exports of Western technology to communist countries.

U.S. trade officials have come to Tokyo after similar bilateral meetings with officials of the British and West German Governments. They said the U.S. proposals were based on an agreement among member countries to streamline the Cocom list devised in 1988 in Versailles.

The dramatic political changes in Eastern Europe in 1989 provided a sizable impetus for easing Cocom curbs on high-tech exports, U.S. officials were quoted as saying. They emphasized, however, that the Western allies should not entirely drop their guard against the Soviet Union since it remains a military superpower despite welcome changes in its political institutions, according to Foreign Ministry officials. They pointed to the fact that the Soviets are still modernizing their military machine.

The U.S. officials also said the Soviets' intention to attack Western countries has apparently waned but that such intentions can change over a short time. Cocom should remain as an insurance policy, they reportedly argued.

The Japanese officials said Japan supports the U.S. proposals, in principle and will cooperate in forging a consensus among member countries by the time a high-level Cocom meeting takes place June 6-7 in Paris, they said. The ministry officials said member countries are now holding discussions on computers, telecommunications equipment, and machine tools. The concerned parties have almost reached an agreement on machine tools but there are a considerable number of issues that remain to be worked out in the other two categories, they said. Multilateral talks to iron out differences concerning the two items will start next week, according to the officials.

Nakayama Says Soviet Military Threat Receding

OW1105051290 Tokyo KYODO in English 0419 GMT 11 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 11 (KYODO)—Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama said Friday the Soviet military threat in the Asia-Pacific region is receding. It was the first time that Nakayama officially acknowledged a reduction in the Soviet threat in the region.

Nakayama, however, told the House of Councillors budget committee Japan and the United States share the view that the Soviet military presence in the region still remains a big threat. The government has insisted that Japan should maintain its current defense policies despite tension easing in East-West relations and changes toward democracy in Eastern Europe. The government argues that the impact of these changes has not yet been felt in the region.

During the same session, Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu said Japan will use the visit to Japan by South Korean President No Tae-u between May 24-26 to make public not only to No but to all nations in the region its self-reflection over its past aggression in China, the Korean peninsula, and other Asian nations.

Nakayama said that the Asia-Pacific region needs to have an institution similar to the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) as a forum for those in charge of foreign affairs to discuss promotion of regional peace.

Soviet Deputy Requests Chernobyl Medical Aid

OW1005124790 Tokyo KYODO in English 1209 GMT 10 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 10 KYODO - A prominent Soviet author and people's deputy has asked Japan to provide medical treatment to leukemia-stricken child victims of the 1986 nuclear accident at Chernobyl, Foreign Ministry sources said Thursday.

The sources said the Soviet Embassy in Tokyo relayed the request to the Japanese Government last Monday in the form of a letter from People's Congress Legislator Oles Adamovich to Health and Welfare Minister Yuji Tsushima. "They are asking us to invite to Japan children of Belorussia who suffer from leukemia due to Chernobyl, as we have a lot of practice in taking care of this disease," said a Foreign Ministry official.

The official said the request is not an official one from the Soviet Government and that Japan has not come to any decision on the matter.

Adamovich, who came to Japan at the invitation of a private group concerned with nuclear issues, penned the letter in early May after a meeting with Soviet Ambassador to Japan Nikolay Soloviev, the sources said. The Belorussian author-politician made international news in May 1989 when a Soviet newspaper published an open letter from him to a government official.

The letter asked for clarification of rumors that the government seeded clouds loaded with radiation from the April 1986 Chernobyl accident to make them rain on rural districts before they could reach Moscow.

Central Bank Governor Cautious on Yen Recovery

OW1105141590 Tokyo KYODO in English 1115 GMT 11 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 11 KYODO—Bank of Japan Governor Yasushi Mieno expressed guarded views Friday on the outlook for the currency market despite the yen's rapid upturn against the U.S. dollar. Mieno made the cautious remarks at a news conference held upon returning home from a series of international monetary and financial meetings in Washington.

In the Tokyo interbank dealings on Friday, the dollar plummeted against Japanese currency to close at a seven-week low of 154.15 yen.

At the press conference, Mieno underscored the importance of a communique issued on Sunday at the end of a meeting of finance ministers and central bank chiefs from the Group of Seven (G-7) major industrial nations. He said the communique, which has special reference to preventing the yen's decline, was a reflection of the G-7's shared recognition that the yen's stability is necessary for global economic adjustment.

Mieno said he expects the yen to strengthen further and stabilize at a higher exchange rate level against the dollar, though insisting on the need to closely watch developments in a longer perspective.

Describing Friday's wild currency movements as "too much," Mieno said it might take some time before the yen has firmly stabilized at a higher level.

Although Mieno stressed the significance of the G-7 statement, it was largely discounted by global currency dealers due to a lack of new initiatives to defend the yen. Market players dismissed the contents of the statement, calling it a mere reiteration of the one made when the G-7 met a month ago in Paris.

The yen's slow recovery since then has also helped reinforce the market view that individual G-7 members remain hesitant to support Japanese interests at the cost of their crucial monetary policies.

Asked about an apparent failure by G-7 members to come up with any new measures for the benefit of the yen, Mieno merely said there was no discussion on the matter at the weekend talks. Mieno said if the G-7 failed to include any specific reference to the yen's recent weakness in their communique at the April Paris meeting, the national currency could have fallen further against the dollar. Pointing to a recent shift in the flow of international funds, Mieno expressed cautious optimism over the yen's future.

Aircraft Redirected From Philippines Airspace

OW1005145190 Tokyo KYODO in English 1422 GMT 10 May 90

[Text] Narita, Chiba Pref., May 10 KYODO—Philippine aviation authorities Thursday redirected a Tokyo-bound Japan Air System (JAS) passenger flight from Singapore, claiming the flight did not have a permit to pass through the country's airspace, JAS officials said. The DC-10, with 58 passengers and 15 crew, detoured around Philippine airspace and landed on schedule at New Tokyo International Airport on Thursday night, airline officials said.

Flight 232 was 740 kilometers west of Lubang Island southwest of Manila when Manila controllers told Captain Hiroshi Ichiki that the plane did not have a permit to fly in the area. Ichiki radioed that the flight did have a permit, obtained in January, but the Philippine aviation authorities rejected the claim, and Ichiki decided to detour, JAS officials said.

In Manila, a Philippine Air Force spokesman said the Japanese aircraft was not on the list of planes with diplomatic clearance to fly over Philippine territory.

JAS Tokyo-Singapore flights, inaugurated in February, usually fly between the two points via Taiwanese airspace, but Flight 232 was scheduled to detour the area Thursday as the Taiwanese Air Force was to hold exercises on the day, officials said.

On Wednesday, a Northwest Airlines aircraft, also en route to Singapore from Tokyo, was intercepted and forced to land in Manila after straying into Philippine airspace. The Boeing 747 violated Philippine airspace earlier the same day when it was flying to Tokyo from Singapore. Manila officials said they allowed it to continue its flight at that time. The aircraft was allowed to leave the next day.

Also on May 1, another Japanese plane, a Tokyo-bound Nippon Cargo airlines flight, was intercepted and forced to land at Manila as its permit to fly over the Philippines had expired. It took off after the Japanese Embassy received clearance from Manila authorities later the same day.

Japanese aviation experts said Thursday's detour order to the JAS aircraft may have come as Philippine air authorities were nervous amid the continued airspace incursions.

No Further Funding Suggested for Indian Dam

OW1105105490 Tokyo KYODO in English 0923 GMT 11 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 11 KYODO—Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama suggested Friday that Japan may not extend additional yen loans for a controversial dam construction project in India. Nakayama told the House of Councilors Budget Committee that the Government will make a political decision on the question after carefully grasping the situation in India concerning the project.

Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu said it is meaningless for Japan if its Official Development Assistance is not appreciated in recipient countries and that he will instruct ministries concerned to pay greater attention to possible environmental destruction if there are objections to certain projects in countries receiving Japanese assistance.

Kaifu and Nakayama replied to questions by Osamu Yatabe, opposition Japan Socialist Party member. Yatabe said the movement against the Sardar Sarovar Dam, spanning the Narmada River in Gujarat State, western India, has been mounting because some 100,000 people will be displaced by the dam's construction.

The World Bank appproved a 450 million dollar loan for the project in 1985 and Japan also promised 2.85 billion yen in loans for hydroelectric power generating equipment in the same year.

LDP Pledges To Aid Kaifu in Election Reform

OW1105045390 Tokyo KYODO in English 0359 GMT 11 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 11 (KYODO)—The ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) confirmed its policy Friday to tackle electoral reforms along with the government of Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, who has declared he will stake the fate of his cabinet on such reforms. In a joint meeting of the party's two panels on political and electoral reforms, some 170 LDP members of the Diet pledged to help the government carry out drastic reforms of the election system.

Newcomers who attended the meeting, however, voiced their dissatisfaction with and doubts about the new electoral system recommended by a special advisory panel to the prime minister and called on government and party leaders to take a cautious approach in the process of drafting reform programs.

The election system council submitted a report on electoral reforms in late April and proposed reducing the number of seats in the House of Representatives and introducing a combination of single-seat constituencies and a proportional representation system to replace the current multiseat constituencies.

At the outset of the meeting, Kaifu reiterated his strong determination to implement sweeping electoral reforms, saying such reforms are the mandate given to him by the times.

LDP Secretary General Ichiro Ozawa asked the party members to cooperate with the government in working out reform programs. The government intends to draw up its reform programs by the end of November when the Diet marks the 100th anniversary of its establishment.

The proposals recommended by the council have drawn fire from politicians, not only from opposition parties but also the LDP, who fear the changes in the electoral system, when carried out, might deprive them of their seats.

House of Representatives Passes 1990 Budget

OW1005092890 Tokyo KYODO in English 0852 GMT 10 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 10 KYODO—The House of Representatives on Thursday passed a 66.27 trillion yen budget for fiscal 1990, sending it to the opposition-dominated House of Councillors. Despite an expected rejection of the bill by the upper house, under a constitutional provision it will be automatically enacted on June 9, 30 days after its approval by the lower house.

The February general election and continuing controversy over the 3 percent consumption tax delayed the budget's passage, making it the fourth-slowest since the end of World War II. The government is now being run under a stopgap budget passed in early April which expires on May 20.

The House of Councillors is almost certain to reject the budget measure, which fails to respond to opposition demands to scrap the consumption tax. The LDP [Liberal Democratic Party] has offered to revise the tax but refuses to abolish it.

Opposition and ruling party legislators are to form a joint committee if the upper house rejects the bill, but a compromise solution before the budget's automatic enactment is considered unlikely.

The budget, up some 9.7 percent from the previous year, boosts social welfare, defense and overseas aid spending. The defense budget totals some 4.16 trillion yen, a 6.1 percent rise, while official development assistance (ODA) expenditures are to rise 8.2 percent to 817.5 billion yen.

Yoda To Become New Vice Defense Minister

OW0905161490 Tokyo KYODO in English 1416 GMT 9 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 9 Kyodo—Vice Minister of Defense Seiki Nishihiro is resigning soon and Tomoharu Yoda, head of the Cabinet Security Affairs Office, will fill the post, government sources said Wednesday.

Yoda, 58, has headed the Cabinet Office since January 1989 after serving as director general of the Secretariat at the Defense Agency.

Masami Kogayu Named as Vice Minister of Finance

OW1005062790 Tokyo KYODO in English 0516 GMT 10 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 10 KYODO—The Ministry of Finance (MOF) has informally named Budget Bureau chief Masami Kogayu as new vice minister, ministry sources said Thursday.

Kogayu, 58, will formally assume the new post in late June after the Fiscal 1990 budget is approved by the Diet, the sources said. He will succeed Sadaaki Hirasawa, 58, who is retiring. Kogayu has been in the post since June 1988.

Greenpeace Plans To Join Antinuclear Rallies

OW0905113590 Tokyo KYODO in English 0927 GMT 9 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 9 KYODO—The international environmentalist group Greenpeace plans to stage antinuclear rallies in atomic-bombed cities and elsewhere in Japan with local civic groups this summer, the group's Japanese chapter said Wednesday.

An American, an Australian, and a Dutch member of the London-based group have left Hawaii aboard the group's yacht, the 14.55-ton Vega, and are now heading for Japan, Greenpeace Japan said. The yacht is scheduled to arrive in Yokosuka, south of Tokyo, on July 8. It will reach Hiroshima on August 4, two days before the western Japan city marks the 45th anniversary of the world's first atomic bombing, the branch office said.

The vessel will also visit Sasebo and Nagasaki, another southern Japan city which also experienced the atomic holocaust at the close of World War II, a branch official said. Atomic bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki on August 6 and 9, 1945, led to Japan's unconditional surrender in the war.

Naoki Obara, of Greenpeace Japan, said the U.S. Navy plans to deploy new military vessels tipped with tomahawk nuclear cruise missiles at its Yokosuka Base. He claimed that the United States has increased its nuclear arsenal in Japan and its vicinity, with U.S. warships carrying nuclear weapons and nuclear-powered ships frequenting Japanese ports. The visiting Greenpeace members will protest these moves alongside local antinuclear groups during their Japanese stay, Obara said.

According to Greenpeace's Japan chapter, Vega is one of seven vessels belonging to the group which has pushed active antinuclear and conservationist movements. It sent a protest vessel to the French nuclear test site at Mururoa Atoll in the South Pacific in 1972.

MITI Report Calls for Higher Quality of Life

OW0905115490 Tokyo KYODO in English 0934 GMT 9 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 9 KYODO—The Japanese Government and companies should help transform the nation's industrial society from being efficiency-oriented to one which places greater emphasis on achieving a better quality of life, a government report said Wednesday. The report, prepared by an advisory panel to the minister of International Trade and Industry, is the first of a series of recommendations by the panel which the ministry intends to use as the basis for its industrial policy in the 1990's.

Reflecting on the theme expressed in earlier government reports, the MITI [Ministry of International Trade and Industry] panel called for a dramatic policy shift in both the public and the private sectors that would funnel more of the nation's wealth into improving the people's daily lives.

Pointing out that there is a growing gap between Japan's economic power and the public's perception regarding their living standards, the report urged the building of a society in which the people can experience a true sense of affluence.

The 60-page report, compiled by a subcommittee of MITI's Industrial Structure Council, proposes shorter working hours, price structure reforms, augmentation of the social infrastructure, environmental protection and more cultural facilities.

Arguing that the high cost of land is the principal barrier to achieving widespread affluence, the panel also called for a "fundamental land policy" that would make more land available at lower prices. Among the concrete measures advocated for the purpose are adjustments of land ownership taxes and raising those levied on farmland in urban areas.

Firms should improve working conditions in ways that maximize opportunities for workers to realize their full potential, the report said.

Shortening working hours, raising the retirement age, and expanding job opportunities for women and the aged were among the measures suggested for reaching the target, it said. It also called on companies to make larger contributions to the community by supporting cultural and scholastic activities.

The government is also advised to provide support to business so that it can offer new lifestyles to consumers.

NTT To 'Strengthen' Top Management Team

OW1005154790 Tokyo KYODO in English 1429 GMT 10 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 10 (KYODO)—Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corp. (NTT) will strengthen its top management in order to overcome the pending problem of its possible breakup, industry sources said Thursday. The sources said Vice President Hitoshi Kojima will be promoted to president to succeed Haruo Yamaguchi, who will be made chairman.

The NTT chairmanship has been vacant since former Chairman Hisashi Shinto resigned in late 1988 after his involvement in the Recruit influence-peddling scandal came to light.

The personnel changes, also including the appointment to vice president of Shigeo Sawada, former vice minister for posts and telecommunications, will be approved at a board of directors' meeting after a shareholders' meeting slated for late June. The sources said the new management team is intended to deal with the breakup issue, which is expected to resurface in due course despite a temporary freeze.

In the face of fierce opposition from NTT and the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), the government decided in March to shelve the proposed partition of NTT until 1995.

Kojima, 59, a graduate of Hokkaido University, joined Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Public Corp., currently NTT, in 1953. He has been vice president since June 1986.

Government To Launch Energy-Saving Promotion

OW1105040790 Tokyo KYODO in English 0336 GMT 11 May 90

[By Mitsuru Mabuchi]

[Text] Tokyo, May 11 (KYODO)—The Agency of Natural Resources and Energy will launch a scheme this year to promote research and development of technology that could lead to innovative energy-saving products, an official of the agency said Friday. Code-named "Vanguard 21," the project is designed to provide incentives to companies for embarking on the development of energy- saving products that are often shunned because of their poor marketability, the official said.

The agency will give an official seal of approval to ideas, prototypes of products, or systems for saving energy as designated under the project, and promote them through exhibitions or other sales-promotion schemes. It will set up committees for each of the feasible product categories under the project. These committees will fashion the basic concepts for the desirable products.

The actual research and development will be conducted independently by the companies, but the agency may arrange joint ventures where considered advisable, the official said.

The idea of the project is to help companies overcome bureaucratic barriers to betting on ideas that may not be so promising as money makers but may be quite significant from a standpoint of environmental protection, the official said. "Companies tend to view products as useless if they fail to attract consumers, no matter how beneficial they are for the environment," said the official. "Our scheme is aimed at giving a push to them to plunge into developing such products."

The official emphasized that it is time for Japanese firms to start developing up concepts for products for the 21st century based more on global considerations than on profitability. The "next-century products" should have such specifications as high energy efficiency, recyclability, durability, and natural degradability, according to the official.

Mongolia

Further on P. Ochirbat's Great Hural Address

LD1005090190 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 0643 GMT 10 May 90

[Text] Ulaanbaatar (ADN correspondent)—The People's Great Hural, the supreme organ of Mongolia according to the latest manner of speech, will in future deal only with fundamental issues of domestic and foreign policies as well as changes to the Constitution, and elect the president, the prime minister, and the supreme court. This was stated by head of state Punsalmaagiyn Ochirbat in Ulaanbaatar on Thursday at the ninth session of the People's Great Hural when explaining the draft of several changes to the Constitution.

From now on, a Small Hural will work as a legislative and supervisory standing parliament. It will be concerned with voting on national economic plans and the budget as well as with the supervision of the government. Contrary to the original amendment, the Small Hural will not be elected from the People's Great Hural. According to the draft, its composition is to be decided by the electorate. Parties will receive one seat for every two percent of the vote. A total of 50 politicians are to be sent by the parties to the Small Hural. They must not be members of the executive or deputies in the People's Great Hural.

The People's Great Hural will only elect the chairman, his deputy, and the secretary of the Small Hural.

Also planned is the introduction of the office of a president. He would not be elected directly, but would be elected from the People's Great Hural. He would represent the state, supervise the government, and coordinate the work of the two hurals, to whom he would be accountable.

In the future, there would also be the function of a prime minister, and thus no presidential power, Ochirbat stressed.

The party bill under discussion, Justice Minister Origiyn Jambaldorj explained, would legally set up the multiparty system in Mongolia. Prior to the election campaign, all the parties would have to register at the Supreme Court. According to the draft, the parties can organize themselves according to the production or territorial principle. This passage represents a compromise between the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party and the new parties. Up to now, the communists have been almost exclusively organized in the enterprises, and the democrats, social democrats, national progressives and the Party of Free Labor have been working primarily in the territories.

Citizens over 18 may found parties provided a relevant application is supported by at least 451 signatures. The parties may not represent regional interests, must observe the constitutional principles, and must reveal their financial backers.

The People's Great Hural session will conclude on Friday.

MPRP Central Committee Session Opens 11 May

LD1105104190 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 0858 GMT 11 May 90

[Text] Ulaanbaatar (ADN)—The Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party's [MPRP] preparations for the general election announced for the summer is the topic at the 11th meeting of the MPRP Central Committee, which opened in Ulaanbaatar today. The report was presented by Central Committee Chairman Gombojabyn Ochirbat.

New State Newspaper Makes Appearance

OW1005123490 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0910 GMT 10 May 90

[Text] Today, Mongolian Radio has received the first experimental issue of the newspaper ARDYN ERH, which translated means PEOPLE'S RIGHT. This is a central organ of the Mongolian People's State being published under the People's Great Hural decision on separating functions of party and state bodies.

The newspaper will regularly come off press starting from June the 1st, three times a week.

North Korea

No Tae-u's Statement Termed 'Shameless Sophism'

SK1005110990 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1020 GMT 10 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 10 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN in a commentary today brands the "special statement" made by the traitor No Tae-u on May 7 as a shameless sophism interlarded with appeasement and deception, threat and blackmail.

The news analyst says:
In the "special statement" the traitor No described the political chaos and social instability sweeping over South Korea as "phenomena marking a turning point" noticed in the "process of democratisation" and ascribed them to the "outlawed strikes" of workers in a foolish attempt to evade responsibility for this.

The root cause of the political crisis and social instability obtaining in South Korea today is the criminal fascist dictatorial rule of the No Tae-u group which seeks rascism, treachery and division, going against the times. [sentence as received]

The traitor No's claim that a "foundation for political stability" has been laid by the founding of the "Democratic Liberal Party" through the "merger of three parties" is nothing but a subterfuge to shun the responsibility for the political disorder in South Korea.

In the socalled "policy measures" to attain political, economic and social stability, he threatened that he would "restore the social order by a resolute and strict enforcement of laws" and deal harshly with the "illegal acts" or "politically oriented collective actions" departing from the labour-management relations.

This was a threat and blackmail that he would more tightly bind the South Korean people who call for independence, democracy and reunification to the fascist repressive order by the fascist evil laws and trample underfoot the righteous struggle of South Korean workers for democracy and the right to existence.

The traitor let loose a string of honeyed words about "revision of tax system" and "welfare improvement of low income strata", failing to produce any measure for ensuring their implementation. And he heatedly defended his anti- popular low-wage policy and rise of prices, prattling that wage-hike should be "restrained within the bounds of improvement of productivity" and "prices are bound to rise, consequent upon wage hike."

It was nonsensical for the traitor to have contended that the rise in prices resulted from workers' struggle for wage hike.

The traitor No's promise of "growth of economy" and "price stability" is no more than a crafty ruse to lull the complaint and discontent of the South Korean people who are subjected to political nonright and hard life and prop up the military fascist dictatorship by harsher suppression and plunder of them.

The "special statement" of the traitor No Tae-u is, in a nutshell, a very shameless tirade to shift the responsibility for "social instability" on to the people and bridge over the crisis of the dictatorial "regime" which has been driven into a corner by an undisguised fascist repressive rule.

If social stability is to be attained in politics, economy, culture, people's life and other domains in South Korea, the U.S. imperialists, the colonial ruler and the No Tae-u group, who are the cancer that causes all sorts of uneasinesses and crises, must be removed.

No's 'Statement' Called 'String of Balderdash'

SK1105115490 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1039 GMT 11 May 90

["Crafty Ruse of One Stricken With Uneasiness"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang May 11 (KCNA)—MINJU CHOSON today denounces the "special statement" of the Traitor No Tae-u at "Chongwadae" a few days ago as a jargon full of appeasement and deception, threat and blackmail.

Recalling that the traitor in his "statement" confessed to the "difficulties" caused by the political and economic crises and complained about growing distrust in politics, the economic decline and social ailments, the news analyst says:

The traitor No's rigmarole is very shameless.

He covered up his treacherous crimes, shifted the responsibility for the present crisis on to the democratic forces and insulted even their just struggle as an "illegal act," threatening that they would "be strongly dealt with."

This fully reveals his fascist intention to put down by repressive armed forces the struggle of the people who are demanding a wage hike, the improvement of working conditions, termination of the military fascist terror rule, the democratisation of society, national reconciliation, unity and reunification.

The traitor No in the "special statement" let loose a string of balderdash for appeasement and deception in a bid to conceal his fascist attempts and fascinate the people.

The puppet's fine-sounding talk about "reforms," "welfare" and "wage hike" is a crafty ruse to maintain their military fascist rule by appeasing the resistance spirit of the people who are subjected to political nonrights and hard living and by keeping them from rising in the anti-"government" struggle.

The traitor in his "statement" did not forget to talk about "concord" and "cooperation." But it is no more than a shameless tirade preaching "concord" and "cooperation" between a handful of oppressors and the broad popular masses, between exploiters and working people.

The traitor No Tae-u has neither intention nor capacity to defuse the present political crisis and social confusion.

If he is truly concerned for the working people and has any intention to carry out social and economic reforms, he must abolish the social and institutional mechanism which serves the purpose of obliterating the workers' right to existence and rights of labour, eliminate comprador businesses which make fortunes at the expense of the blood and sweat of people and put a period to the truculent military fascist terror rule.

SKNDF Demands No Tae-u's Resignation

SK1105121890 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1020 GMT 11 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 11 (KCNA)—A spokesman of "Hanminjon" [South Korean National Democratic Front—SKNDF] in a statement May 9 said that No Tae-u's special statement on the situation was run through with venomous outpourings full of hatred for the people and demanded his immediate resignation and the prompt dissolution of the "Democratic Liberal party."

It is preposterous of No Tae-u to threaten people in his special statement, shifting the responsibility for the chaotic consequences of his misrule onto the people and branding the just demand and struggle of the people as a "breach of law and order," the statement noted, and went on:

It is No Tae-u himself who is to blame for the present miserable situation under which the vital rights of the people and democracy are violated.

No suppressed by force the people's desire for independence, democracy and reunification and committed unheard-of injustices and irregularities in the three years of his office after his hypocritic "June 29 declaration."

The No fascist group has caused a deplorable absence of human rights with the storm of security-oriented politics, the number of the prisoners of conscience in this land in the three years of the Sixth Republic doubling that in the eight years of the Fifth Republic.

This reality in which the sledgehammer of the "National Security Law" was brought down on the heads of Rev. Mun Ik-hwan and Yim Su-kyong who had visited the North fully proves that this land is a wasteland of democracy.

The anachronistic suppression of the press circle notably the KBS and the plot to control broadcasting, and the brutal operations to stamp out the labour movement including the strike of workers of the Hyundai Heavy Industries in Ulsan brought to light once again the violent nature and inhumane immorality of No Tae-u as the principal culprit in the Kwangju massacre.

The No fascist group is trying to check and blockade the struggle of the democratic, patriotic forces with the tenth anniversary of the Kwangju popular uprising at hand and tide over the ruinous crisis of the DLP's one-party dictatorship by barring the extensive spread of the labour movement with a tough repressive step.

The United States and the No fascist group are scheming to reforge the pro-American conservative forces with the inauguration of the DLP and stabilize the colonial rule and the fascist regime.

Our people have keenly realized through their experiences in the three years of No's power that as long as he remains in power the existence of the people and democracy cannot be ensured and independence and national reunification cannot be achieved.

The statement called upon the entire people to resolutely rise up against the repressive offensive of the fascist group and bring down a rigid sledgehammer on the anti-popular, anti-democratic allied government.

Daily Comments on Violence in South

SK1105120290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1057 GMT 11 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 11 (KCNA)—The fierce struggle against the "Democratic Liberal Party" (DLP) sweeping South Korea is an expression of the distrust of the entire South Korean people in the "DLP" and an eruption of their hatred and wrath at the group of No Tae-u, Kim Yong-sam and Kim Chong-pil.

Recalling that more than 80,000 students and citizens in 17 cities of south Korea staged fierce anti-American, anti-"government" protests on May 9, shouting "Crush 'DLP'," "Expel Gregg" and so on, MINJU CHOSON in a signed commentary today says:

How can the South Korean people tolerate the wildcat political gambling of the dictator and political quacks for gratifying their mucky political ambition under the protection of the U.S. imperialists? It is only too natural that they rose up in the struggle under slogan calling for crushing the "DLP."

This notwithstanding, the fascist clique let loose heavily armed police to suppress the protesters, firing even live bullets at them. This is a vicious challenge to the just demands of the people.

The No Tae-u group must look squarely at the trend of the times and dissolve the "DLP" and step down as demanded by the people.

Cheney Statement on NATO Capability Criticized

SK1105054490 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0520 GMT 11 May 90

["Nuclear Warmaniac's Dangerous Outburst"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang May 11 (KCNA)—U.S. Defence Secretary Cheney May 8 openly claimed that NATO's nuclear first-strike option must be maintained, according to a report.

He told reporters during his flight to Canada on the eve of a NATO nuclear planning group meeting of defence ministers that he wanted NATO to retain its nuclear first-strike option even if the U.S.-Soviet conventional forces reach parity in Europe.

This vividly shows that the U.S. imperialists intend to thoroughly arm the NATO nations with nuclear weapons and maintain the socalled "flexible counter strategy" for delivering a nuclear forestalling strike on the Soviet Union and East European countries in "case of emergency" in reliance on their unilateral nuclear superiority.

Cheney's utterances proved that the U.S. imperialists are not interested in the elimination of nuclear weapons in Europe but are hell bent on the nuclear arms buildup behind the scene of "disarmament".

It is foolish of them to threaten and blackmail others by brandishing nuclear weapons.

The U.S. imperialists must stop the extremely adventurous moves of nuclear threat and lend an ear to the world's fair opinion demanding the cutback and elimination of nuclear weapons.

U.S. House Resolution on South Derided

SK1105055690 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0526 GMT 11 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 11 (KCNA)—The subcommittee on Asian and Pacific Affairs of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives May 8 passed a "resolution" reaffirming the U.S. "security commitments" to South Korea, according to a report.

The "resolution" is an aggressive document reflecting the U.S. imperialists' sinister scheme to continue pursuing their splittist and war policy in Korea.

The "observance of the security commitments" vociferated by them is nothing but an expression of their intention to perpetuate their military occupation of South Korea, intensify their support to the puppets and build up more qualitatively their aggression forces stationed in South Korea so as to step up the preparations for a new war of aggression in Korea.

The fabrication of such an aggressive document at the house synchronizing with the formal inauguration of the "Democratic Liberal Party" in South Korea to be used as a tool of their colony shows that the U.S. imperialists are very persistently and viciously scheming to achieve their aggressive objective in Korea.

Rev Chong in New York Demands Removal of Wall

SK0505104290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1023 GMT 5 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 5 (KCNA)—The U.S. paper THE MILITANT April 27 carried an article on the demand of Rev. Chong Ki-yol for the removal of the wall of division."

The paper noted that Rev. Chong who had participated in the international peace and reunification study tour of Korea held in Korea last year, speaking at a forum of workers in New York on April 14, demanded the removal of the wall of division built by South Korea and the withdrawal of the U.S. Forces from South Korea.

He also demanded the release of woman student Yim Su-kyong and all other political prisoners in South Korea, said the paper.

U.S. Workers Party Delegation Visits Pyongyang

Delegation Arrives

SK0805105790 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1045 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 8 (KCNA)—A delegation of the Workers World Party of the United States headed by Sam Marcy, chairman of the National Committee of the party, arrived here today.

It was met at the airport by Choe Tae-pok, secretary, and Kim Yong-son, director of a department, of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea.

Party Held for Delegation

SK0905051890 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0418 GMT 9 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 9 (KCNA)—The Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea arranged a party Tuesday [8 May] in honor of the delegation of the workers world party of the United States on a visit to Korea.

Invited there were the members of the delegation headed by Sam Marcy, chairman of the National Committee of the Workers World Party of the United States.

Present were Secretary Choe Tae-pok, director of a department Kim Yong-sun and Vice-Director of a department Kim Chae-pong of the Central Committee of the WPK and other personages concerned.

Speeches were exchanged there.

Talks With WPK Held

SK1005232490 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2211 GMT 10 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 10 (KCNA)—Talks were held here today between delegations of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and the Workers World Party of the United States.

Present there on our side were Director Kim Yong-sun and Vice-Director Kim Chae-pong of a department of the Central Committee of the WPK and officials concerned and on the opposite side were the members of the delegation led by Sam Marcy, chairman of the National Committee of the party.

The sides exchanged views on the further development of the friendly and cooperative relations between the two parties and a series of matters of mutual concern.

The talks proceeded in a friendly atmosphere.

TASS States Position on South's UN Entry

SK1105060490 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0554 GMT 11 May 90

[Text] Moscow May 10 (KCNA)—Tass May 9 published an article of a political analyst refuting the false report of the South Korean puppet "government"-controlled YONHAP NEWS AGENCY that the Soviet Union allegedly supported the "unilateral admission of South Korea to the United Nations".

The political analyst charged that the YONHAP News Agency circulated a report which says, referring to "a high-ranking representative" of the puppet authorities that the Soviet Union allegedly supported the unilateral admission of South Korea to the United Nations, radically changing its long-standing position. The agency referred to a statement by a Soviet official allegedly made during a meeting with South Korean puppet diplomats in New York, he added.

Noting that the Soviet representative spelled out the Soviet position concerning the South Korean puppets' attempt to join the United Nations separately, the analyst said:

Korea is a divided country. Therefore, it is expedient to examine South Korea's membership in the United Nations, taking into account the interests of the North and the South of Korea and the North-South dialogue.

The Soviet Union would welcome any solution of this question by Pyongyang and Seoul. This is the USSR's clear-cut and consistent position.

Asking for whom and for what purpose the South Korean side needed to distort this position of the Soviet Union with YONHAP's "assistance," the analyst concluded that this act was not aimed at providing society with objective and true information.

Reception Given at Soviet Embassy on Anniversary

SK1105063490 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0540 GMT 11 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 11 (KCNA)—A reception was given Thursday [10 May] at the Soviet Embassy here on the occasion of the 45th anniversary of the victory of the Soviet people in the Great Patriotic War.

Pointing to the significance of the victory in the Second World War, Charge d'Affaires ad Interim of the Soviet Embassy Boris Morozov said in his speech:

Devastated cities, villages and industrial establishments were rebuilt on the heaps of ashes and pre-war production level was restored in industrial and agricultural fields in a short span of time by the Soviet people's vigorous devoted struggle after the victory.

Noting that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is making a great contribution to the cause of peace, he said that the Korean people are striving to reunify the country independently and peacefully on a democratic basis.

It is proved by the peaceloving initiatives put forward by Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, in his New Year address, he said.

The world public and the Soviet Union, he stated, extend full support to them and hail them.

Choe Kwang, chief of the General Staff of the Korean People's Army, said in his speech that the Soviet people and army, taking the burdens of the Second World War upon themselves, defeated the fascist aggressors, defended the gains of the October revolution and the first socialist state of the world, liberated the peoples of many countries and made a decisive contribution to saving the destiny of the world by displaying mass heroism.

The historical victory of the Soviet people in the Patriotic War was a great victory which powerfully demonstrated the superiority and indestructible vitality of the socialist system over the capitalist system, he stressed.

Pointing out that the imperialists are scheming to destroy socialism while resorting to arms buildup and stepping up preparations for a nuclear war under the cloak of "detente" and "peace", he declared that the cause of socialism will surely emerge victorious.

The Korean party, government and people, he said, highly estimate the peaceloving and constructive proposals and steps of the Soviet party and government for world peace and security and express firm support and solidarity for their efforts to carry them into practice.

Japanese Crackdown on Chongnyon Denounced

SK1105062090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0605 GMT 11 May 90

["Insolent Acts of Japanese Reactionaries"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang May 11 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN in a commentary today sternly denounces the Japanese police authorities' recent crackdown on schools under the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) and its organisations as an intolerable challenge to Chongnyon and the DPRK and a crude violation of the international law and humanitarianism.

The news analyst says:
Chongnyon is a legitimate organisation of overseas citizens of the DPRK, a dignified, independent and sovereign state, and it has made consistent efforts for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country and in defence of the democratic national rights of the Korean citizens in Japan and endeavoured to develop the amity and friendship between the Korean and Japanese peoples.

The patriotic activities of Chongnyon enjoy positive support of the Japanese people and the world progressive people.

The Japanese authorities, therefore, must guarantee the just activities of Chongnyon and the democratic national rights of the Korean citizens in Japan and protect their lives and properties.

However, the Japanese reactionaries have resorted to all conceivable acts such as suppression, terrorism and intrigues to impair the international authority of the DPRK and destroy Chongnyon.

Their repeated crackdown on Chongnyon reveals the bestial nature of the samurai descendants who are imbued to the marrow with the idea of national chauvinism and accustomed to aggression, murder, terrorism and intrigues.

This proves that the talk of the Japanese person in authority about "improvement of relations" with the DPRK and the like is a lie not worth a farthing.

It cannot be overlooked that this suppression is timed to coincide with a political bargaining between South Korea and Japan over the "matter of permanent residence of the third generation" of Koreans in Japan with the traitor No Tae-u' treacherous trip to Japan at hand.

The Japanese authorities must immediately stop suppressing Chongnyon against the will and interests of the Korean and Japanese peoples who aspire after friendship, guarantee by law all the activities of Chongnyon and take a step to eliminate the national chauvinist hostility to the DPRK.

We will watch the future attitude of the Japanese authorities.

'Reckless Violence' Assailed

SK1105062290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0547 GMT 11 May 90

[Text] Tokyo May 10 (KNS-KCNA)—A central meeting of Koreans in Japan denouncing the Japanese authorities' unwarranted suppression of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) and a Korean school was held in Tokyo on May 10.

Addressing the meeting, Yi Chin-kyu, first vice-chairman of the Central Standing Committee of Chongnyon, branded the Japanese authorities' reckless fascist violence as an intolerable insult and challenge to the Chongnyon organization and 700,000 Koreans in Japan and an unpardonable political suppression of the patriotic work of Chongnyon and its democratic national education and bitterly denounced it with surging national indignation.

A serious attention must be paid to the fact that the brutal suppression was committed with the No Tae-u military fascist clique's trip to Japan at hand, he said. He denounced the traitor No Tae-u's scheduled trip to Japan as a criminal trip to strengthen the tieup between the South Korean puppets and the Japanese reactionaries and bring to success their confab for the creation of "two Koreas" and against DPRK and Chongnyon.

He strongly demanded that the Japanese authorities give up at once their hostile policy toward Chongnyon and the DPRK, immediately release the arrested Korean residents in Japan, formally apologize for insulting Chongnyon by their brutal crackdown and ensure the democratic national rights of Koreans in Japan.

Speeches were made by Yuzuru Shimazaki, socialist member of the House of Representatives of Japan and general secretary of the Special Measure Committee on Korean Affairs, Hiroshi Wakabayashi, general secretary of the Japan Committee for Supporting the Independent and Peaceful Reunification of Korea, and lawyer Hiroharu Yoshimine who were guests at the meeting.

They protested against the armed police which savagely trampled underfoot the inviolable Korean school, a flower garden of national education, and said that the Japanese authorities' violence can never be pardoned.

They strongly demanded a fundamental rectification of Japan's Korean policy and a guarantee for the democratic national education of Koreans in Japan.

A written protest addressed to the Japanese authorities was adopted and a protest group to be dispatched to the Japanese Government and the National Public Safety Commission was formed at the meeting.

Meanwhile, a meeting of Koreans under the Shinjuku branch of the Tokyo metropolitan headquarters of Chongnyon denouncing the Japanese authorities' unwarranted suppression was held on May 8.

Further on Yasir 'Arafat's Visit to Pyongyang

Citizens Welcome Delegation

SK1005102190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1000 GMT 10 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 10 (KCNA)—A delegation of the State of Palestine led by Comrade Yasir 'Arafat, president of the State of Palestine, chairman of the executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization and Commander-in-chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Palestine, arrived here today by special plane for an official visit to our country upon the invitation of Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The streets of Pyongyang and the airport were decked in welcome attire to greet the goodwill envoy of the Palestinian people. Thousands of working people in Pyongyang turned out to the airport carrying miniature flags of the two countries and bunches of flowers in their hands.

Set up at the airport were a portrait of President Kim Il-song and a portrait of President Yasir 'Arafat.

Also set up there were slogan-boards reading "Warm welcome to goodwill envoy of the Palestinian people !" And "Long live militant friendship and solidarity between Korean and Palestinian peoples !"

The guests were met at the airport by Yi Chong-ok, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and Vice-President; Kim Yong-nam, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, Vice-Premier of the Administration Council and Foreign Minister; Kang Hui-won, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and Vice-Premier of the Administration Council; and other leading officials.

Mustafa al-Safarini, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the State of Palestine to Korea, and his embassy officials and foreign diplomatic envoys here were present at the airport.

President Yasir 'Arafat was presented with bunches of flowers by children of our country and the embassy of the State of Palestine.

He waved to the crowds passing before them while they raised the cheers "Welcome, 'Arafat" and "Friendship, solidarity", and headed for the city.

More than 100,000 people of the capital city warmly welcomed him along the route.

Paek Hak-yon, permanent Vice-Chairman of the Pyongyang Municipal People's Committee, Presented President Yasir 'Arafat with a silver knife which was given by our people to distinguished guests from older times as a symbol of self-protection and longevity in good health.

This is the fourth Korean visit of President Yasir 'Arafat.

Kim Il-song Greets Yasir 'Arafat

SK1005153390 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1511 GMT 10 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 10 (KCNA)—Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, today greeted Comrade Yasir 'Arafat, president of the State of Palestine, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organisation and Commander-in-Chief of the Palestine Revolutionary Armed Forces, who arrived here for an official visit to Korea.

National flags of the DPRK and Palestine were flying on flagpoles.

President Kim Il-song exchanged warm greetings with President Yasir 'Arafat and hugged him.

A welcome ceremony took place in honour of president Yasir 'Arafat.

The national anthems of the State of Palestine and the DPRK were played.

President Yasir 'Arafat, in company with President Kim Il-song, reviewed an honor guard of the three services of the Korean People's Army.

Present at the welcome ceremony were members of the delegation of the state of Palestine, Jamal al-Sourany, member of the Executive Committee of the PLO; Suleiman Shurafai, adviser to the president for the Arab affairs and member of the Fatah Revolutionary Council; Sami Musallami, chief of the presidential office and member of the Fatah Revolutionary Council; Mustafa al-Safarini, ambassador e.p. of Palestine to Korea; and other members.

Also present there were Yi Chong-ok, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-president; Kim Yong-nam, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, vice-premier of the Administration Council and foreign minister; and other cadres.

Talks Held With Delegation

SK1005155390 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1530 GMT 10 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 10 (KCNA)—Talks were held today between Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and Comrade Yasir 'Arafat, president of the state of Palestine, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization and Commander-in-Chief of the Palestine Revolutionary Armed Forces.

Present at the talks on our side were Yi Chong-ok, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and vice-president; Kim Yong-nam, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, vice-premier of the Administration Council and minister of foreign affairs; and other cadres.

Present on the opposite side were members of the delegation of the state of Palestine Jamal al-Sourany, member of the PLO Executive Committee; Suleiman Shurafai, adviser to the president for the Arab Affairs and member of the Fatah Revolutionary Council; Sami Musallami, chief of the Presidential Office and member of the Fatah Revolutionary Council; Mustafa al-Safarini, ambassador e.p. of Palestine to Korea; and other members.

The talks proceeded in a sincere and friendly atmosphere.

Gift Given to Kim Il-song

SK1005235290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1610 GMT 10 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 10 (KCNA)—Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, today received a gift from Comrade Yasir 'Arafat, president of the state of Palestine, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization and commander-in-chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Palestine.

Present on the occasion were the members of the delegation of the state of Palestine.

Also on hand were Yi Chong-ok, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and vice-president, Kim Yong-nam, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, vice-premier of the Administration Council and Foreign Minister, and other senior officials.

President Kim Il-song saw the gift and expressed thanks for it.

He presented a gift to President Yasir 'Arafat today.

After seeing the gift, President Yasir 'Arafat expressed deep thanks for it.

Banquet Arranged for 'Arafat

SK1005155590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1533 GMT 10 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 10 (KCNA)—Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, arranged a grand banquet at the Kumsusan Assembly Hall on the evening of May 10 in honor of Comrade Yasir 'Arafat, president of the state of Palestine, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organisation and commander-in-chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Palestine, on an official visit to the DPRK.

President Kim Il-song conducted President Yasir 'Arafat into the banquet hall amid the warm welcome of the participants.

The national anthems of Palestine and our country were played there.

President Kim Il-song made a speech.

President Yasir 'Arafat spoke next.

Present on invitation were members of the delegation of the state of Palestine.

Present there were Yi Chong-ok, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-president; Kim Yong-nam, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, vice-premier of the Administration Council and Foreign Minister; Kang Hui-won, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and vice-premier of the Administration Council, and other senior officials.

The banquet proceeded in a warm atmosphere overflowing with feelings of friendship.

Kim Il-song Addresses Banquet

SK1105060190 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2100 GMT 10 May 90

[Speech by Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers Party of Korea (WPK) and DPRK president, at a banquet in honor of Yasir 'Arafat, president of the state of Palestine, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, and commander-in-chief of the Palestine Revolutionary Armed Forces, in the Kumsusan Assembly Hall, Pyongyang, on 10 May—read by announcer]

[Text] Respected Comrade President Yasir 'Arafat, Palestinian guests, and comrades and friends:

It is a pleasure to meet and sit together with Comrade Yasir 'Arafat, president of the State of Palestine, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, and commander-in-chief of the Palestine Revolutionary Armed Forces, again after the lapse of one year. On behalf of our party, the government of the Republic, and the Korean people, and on my own, I warmly welcome Comrade President and your suite members.

Availing myself of this opportunity, I also extend militant greetings and solidarity to the Palestinian people who are unyieldingly fighting for the freedom and liberation of their fatherland.

Comrade President, the outstanding leader of the Palestinian people and an intimate comrade-in-arms, is on your fourth visit to our country.

Your frequent visits to our country, despite the condition in which you have staged an arduous struggle for the victory of the Palestinian revolution, show that you treasure friendly relations with and revolutionary obligations to us, and powerfully demonstrate durable friendship and unity between the peoples of our two countries.

The Korean and Palestinian peoples have long established and have constantly developed bonds of friendship on the same anti-imperialist front of independence.

Comrade president's visit to our country this time will serve as another important occasion to further strengthen and develop militant friendship and unity between the Korean and Palestinian peoples.

Today when the imperialists are cunningly maneuvering to undermine socialism and block the people's advance along the path of independence, the peoples of revolutionary countries should further strengthen unity and solidarity and continue to vigorously stage the anti-imperialist struggle for independence.

Having long conducted a grim struggle to restore their beloved fatherland under the leadership of the PLO, the Palestinian people are still bravely staging a patriotic people's uprising with an invincible will in the area occupied by Israel and are broadening their sacred struggle to completely restore their state right, their right to self-determination, and their legitimate national right.

The Korean people always stand firmly by the fighting Palestinian people and will also make every effort possible to support your just struggle in the future.

Solving the Palestinian problem is a key to guaranteeing peace and security in the Middle East.

The PLO maintains that an international Middle East peace conference of all interested parties, including itself, should be convened to resolve the Palestinian problem and the Middle East problem in a comprehensive and impartial manner. However, this international Middle East peace conference has not yet been convened, and the danger of war has not been removed in this area. This is linked to the maneuvers of the United States and the Israeli Zionists.

The Israeli Zionists are now settling a large number of Jews immigrating from other countries in the West Bank of the Jordan River and the Gaza Strip under their occupation. This has created a new danger to the survival of the Palestinian and Arab people and has further aggravated the situation in the Middle East.

We hold that these maneuvers motivated by the expansionist ambition of the Israeli Zionists to establish a great Israel empire must be resolutely checked.

To solve the Palestinian problem and the Middle East problem in a fair and peaceful manner, the Israeli aggressors must withdraw from all the Arab land under their occupation and the Palestinian people's national right to self-determination must be completely guaranteed.

I think it very good that the spirit of trying to enhance unity and cooperation among the Arab countries in their struggle against the Israeli aggressors has recently grown higher. When the Palestinian people and all the Arab people fight in firm unity, the Palestinian people's historic cause of building an independent and sovereign state with Jerusalem as the capital in the land of Palestine will triumph, and durable peace in the Middle East will be guaranteed.

Without being shaken amid the currents of the complicated situation, our people are today reliably defending the bulwark of peace and socialism and staunchly fighting for the complete victory of socialism and the independent and peaceful reunification of the fatherland, full of revolutionary optimism and confidence.

Many obstacles are still in the way of our country's reunification, but our people will certainly realize the long-cherished national desire for national reunification with the united strength of the entire nation amid active support and encouragement from the progressive people of the world.

Respected comrade president, through your visit to our country this time, our people warmly feel again that friendship with the Palestinian people is very invaluable, and they are more strongly determined to fight as ever shoulder to shoulder with the Palestinian people in the joint struggle against imperialism and for independence.

On this occasion filled with comradely friendship and the joy of reunion, I propose a toast to the invincible militant friendship between the Korean and Palestinian peoples, to the unity of the world's people defending independence, to the long life and good health of respected Comrade President Yasir 'Arafat, to the good health of the Palestinian guests, and to the good health of many comrades and friends here.

Yasir 'Arafat Speaks at Banquet

SK1005161490 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1546 GMT 10 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 10 (KCNA)—Comrade Yasir 'Arafat, president of the state of Palestine, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organisation and Commander-in-Chief of the Palestine Revolutionary Armed Forces, delivered a speech at the banquet arranged by Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, in his honor on May 10.

Recalling that he had visited the DPRK on several occasions, each time enjoying warm and comradely welcome, he said:

Such welcome fully shows how solid the bonds of militant friendship and solidarity forged between the Palestinian people and your friendly people and between the victorious Palestinian revolution and your militant party are.

Availing myself of this important opportunity, I, in the name of our fighting people and revolutionaries, would like to express wholehearted thanks once again to Your Excellency for always extending firm support and inspiring encouragement to our people who are daringly waging a heroic struggle and patriotic resistance for freedom and national independence.

We are not mere guests but are friends and combatants who are fighting in the same trench against world imperialism and its stooges. For this very reason, whenever we are confronted with great threat and grave challenge, we visit your militant country to find together the best method and way to surmount them and continue our common struggle and exchange our views with each other.

As Your Excellency President, the great leader, know, the cause of our people has reached a grave stage today under an extremely acute situation. With their road of emigration to other countries blocked, a large namber of Jews are forcibly immigrated into occupied Palestine, our territory and homeland.

The aim of such immigration lies in realising the dream of the Zionists to force our people out of their territory and found a greater Israel. This indicates that Israel intends to occupy more territories and expand her land at the sacrifice of our people and fraternal Arab peoples.

Such immigration is a violation of the rights, even elementary human rights of the Palestinians and the international law and codes.

The flux of Jews poses threats to the existence of our people and peace and security of the world, to say nothing of our motherland, creating an atmosphere of constant tensions and war in the Middle East.

In face of all this threat and challenge, our fighting people are hardening as never before their determination to further expand the glorious popular uprising and continue stubbornly their patriotic struggle against Israel's occupation under the leadership of the PLO, their sole legitimate representative, with the support and encouragement of all brothers, friends and fighters of the world.

By putting an end to Israel's occupation of our homeland and holy lands and winning victory, our people will lead an independent, dignified and free life in their own land, together with all the free peoples of the world.

Our people are paying dearly for the attainment of this noble purpose, overcoming painful sufferings.

Whatever big misfortunes and losses they may suffer, our people will restore their inalienable national rights including the right to return to the homeland, the right to self-determination, the right to establish an independent state with holy Jerusalem as the capital and exercise these rights and, considering that we must achieve peace for this, our people are firmly adhering to our peace initiative with strong confidence, ready for all sorts of sacrifices.

I take this opportunity of visiting militant Korea to manifest once again our full, strong support to all the bold initiatives taken by Your Excellency on several occasions to achieve a peaceful reunification of Korea through North- South dialogue and turn this region into a zone free from nuclear and other mass destruction weapons.

We also assure you of our full support to the inspiring proposal for the removal of the artificial wall and obstacles built along the Demarcation Line and for open and free travel between the North and the South, a proposal advanced by you early this year.

We believe that the militant Korean people who are under the sagacious and inspiring leadership of Your Excellency will realize their noblest desire for the founding of the democratic confederal republic of Koryo, upholding the wise policy set forth by Your Excellency, and thus enjoy a harmonious, happy, stable and peaceful life and continue expediting the national march for construction and progress.

I affirm our sincere determination to make sustained efforts to further strengthen and develop the close bonds of friendship, cooperation and solidarity forged between us in keeping with our common goals and interests.

Dailies Welcome Visit

SK1105005790 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0000 GMT 10 May 90

[NODONG SINMUN 10 May editorial: "The Palestinian People's Friendship Envoy"]

[Text] At the invitation of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the DPRK, a delegation of the state of Palestine headed by Comrade Yasir 'Arafat, president of the state of Palestine, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, and commander-in-chief of the Palestinian Revolutionary Armed Forces, is due to arrive in Pyongyang today.

The Korean people warmly welcome the visit of the delegation of the state of Palestine to our country, which is coming with warm feelings of friendship toward our people.

Although they are geographically distant from each other, Korea and Palestine have long established close friendly relations between them and these relations are becoming more consolidated and developing on the path of anti-imperialist struggle for peace.

Comrade Yasir 'Arafat, president of the state of Palestine, is to visit our country for the fourth time. This is an expression of the Palestinian people's profound feelings of friendship toward and trust in our people.

The visit to our country by the delegation of the state of Palestine this time will contribute to upgrading the relations of friendship and cooperation between the two peoples, which have long been forged and consolidated in the common frontline of anti-imperialism, onto a new higher stage and will serve as an important opportunity of strengthening the unity with the people of the world who advocate independence. It is also an encouragement to our people who are on a great vigorous march toward the grandeur goals of socialist construction of the nineties and struggling to achieve the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: Under the leadership of the PLO, the Palestinian people are now engaged in a struggle against the Israeli aggressors more than ever, with a firm conviction in victory.

The Palestinian people are determinedly struggling to recover the lost territories and for the attainment of national dignity and sovereignty. Under the leadership of the PLO, the brave Palestinian people continue their arduous struggle to evict the Israeli aggressors and to achieve freedom and liberation of their country.

The declaration of the state of Palestine, with Jerusalem as its capital, on 15 November 1988, a shining victory won by the Palestinian people on the road of struggle against the Israeli aggressors and for realizing their national independence, was an event of great significance in the development of the Palestinian revolutionary movement.

Following the declaration of the state of Palestine, many countries in the world recognized the state of Palestine and have established formal diplomatic relations with it. This is a clear expression of the international support for and solidarity with the Palestinian people.

Today, the Palestinian people are bravely struggling, with an unwavering determination to keep struggling until they can fly the Palestinian flag in the sky over Jerusalem. The Palestinian people in the West Bank of the Jordan River and Gaza Strip have continued their popular uprising this year in defiance of the tyrannical bayonet-wielding suppression of the occupiers.

The Palestinian people's heroic resistance has driven the Israeli aggressors into a serious political and economic crisis. The Israeli aggressors are making their last-hour efforts to subdue the Palestinian people's surging struggle and to keep the occupied regions under its rule and in order.

While massing more aggressive armed forces in the occupied territories, they have employed all manner of schemes to completely annex the occupied territories by having a large number of Jewish settlers move in there.

The Israeli aggressors' scheme as such, however, has caused the Palestinian people's struggle to surge further and is only hastening their fall.

The PLO, the one and only legitimate representative of the state of Palestine, called for the convening of an international conference for peace in the Middle East attended by all parties concerned, including the PLO, for a fair and peaceful settlement of the Palestinian issue and for guaranteeing peace in the Middle East and is now actively making efforts to realize it.

Our people have supported the fighting Palestinian people's just struggle by standing on their side at all times and our stand as such will remain invariable.

The Palestinian people and the PLO positively support the reasonable and realistic proposals of our party and the republic's government for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country. In particular, the Palestinian people resolutely denounce the U.S. imperialists' occupation of South Korea, their maneuvers to fabricate two Koreas, and the aggressive war exercise, without establishing any sort of relations with South Korea.

Consolidating and developing the friendship and unity between the Korean and Palestinian peoples not only corresponds to the common desire and interests of the two countries, but it also contributes to realizing the anti-imperialist cause for independence of the world's revolutionary people.

The Korean people will, as in the past, make positive efforts to strengthen the friendship and unity with the Palestinian people.

The visit to our country this time by the delegation of the State of Palestine will serve as another new milestone in the history of Korean-Palestinian friendship. Our people wholeheartedly hope that the friendship envoy of the Palestinian people spend pleasant and joyous days during his stay in our country and wish him wonderful successes in his business visit.

Luncheon Arranged for Kim Il-song

SK1105105290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1016 GMT 11 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 11 (KCNA)—Comrade Yasir 'Arafat, president of the state of Palestine, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organisation and commander-in-chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Palestine, arranged a luncheon today in honor of Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Invited there were Kim Yong-nam, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, vice-premier of the Administration Council and foreign minister; and other senior officials.

Present there were members of the delegation of the state of Palestine.

The luncheon proceeded in a warm atmosphere.

Wreath Laid at Martyrs Cemetery

SK1105105890 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1018 GMT 11 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 11 (KCNA)—Yasir 'Arafat, president of the state of Palestine, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander-in-chief of the Palestine Revolutionary Armed Forces, together with his delegation members, now on an official visit to Korea, laid a wreath at the Revolutionary Martyrs Cemetery on Mt. Taesong in the suburbs of Pyongyang today.

They were accompanied by Yi Chong-ok, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-president, and officials concerned.

They observed a moment's silence in memory of the anti-Japanese revolutionary martyrs who dedicated their precious lives to the sacred cause of the national liberation and people's freedom and happiness.

More Talks Held With Kim Il-song

SK1105111890 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1028 GMT 11 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 11 (KCNA)—Talks were again held today between Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and Comrade Yasir 'Arafat, president of the state of Palestine, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine liberation organization and commander-in-chief of the Palestine Revolutionary Armed Forces.

Present at the talks on our side were Kim Yong-nam, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, vice-premier of the Administration Council and minister of foreign affairs; and other cadres.

Present on the opposite side were members of the delegation of the state of Palestine Jamal al-Sourany, member of the PLO Executive Committee; Suleiman Shurafai, adviser to the president for the Arab affairs and member of the Fatah Revolutionary Council; Sami Musallami, chief of the presidential office and member of the Fatah Revolutionary Council; Mustafa al-Safarini, ambassador E.P. of the state of Palestine to Korea; and other members.

The talks proceeded in a sincere and friendly atmosphere.

Visit to Military University

SK1105113690 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1101 GMT 11 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 11 (KCNA)—The delegation of the state of Palestine led by Yasir 'Arafat, president of the state of Palestine, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organisation and commander-in-chief of the Palestine Revolutionary Armed Forces, Friday visited Kim Il-song Military University and a unit of the Korean People's Army (KPA).

The guests were accompanied by Yi Chong-ok, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-president; and other officials concerned.

The delegation visited first Kim Il-song Military University.

A welcome function took place there.

The guests were warmly welcomed by the teachers and students of the university.

They made a round of its military educational facilities.

The delegation visited the unit of the KPA to which comrade Chon Sok-chong belongs.

The guests were warmly welcomed by the soldiers of the unit and watched their training.

Delegates Conclude Visit

SK1105102290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1002 GMT 11 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 11 (KCNA)—The delegation of the state of Palestine led by Comrade Yasir 'Arafat, president of the state of Palestine, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization and commander-in-chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Palestine, left here this afternoon by special plane after paying an official visit to Korea upon the invitation of Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Yi Chong-ok, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and vice-president; Kim Yong-nam, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, vice-premier of the Administration Council and foreign minister; Kang Hui-won, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Commwttee and vice-premier of the Administration Council; and other senior officials were present at the airport.

Mustafa al-Safarini, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the state of Palestine to Korea, and his embassy officials and diplomatic envoys of different countries here were also present.

A farewell function for the delegation took place.

The national anthems of Korea and the state of Palestine were played.

President Yasir 'Arafat, accompanied by Vice-President Yi Chong-ok, reviewed a guard of honor of the three services of the Korean People's Army.

Thousands of people of Pyongyang who turned out at the airport carrying miniature flags of the two countries and bunches of flowers saw off the guests with the cheers "Bon voyage, 'Arafat" and "Friendship, solidarity" renewing their determination to fight invariably shoulder to shoulder with the palestinian people in the common struggle for independence against imperialism.

Pakistan People's Party Chairwoman Bhutto Visits

Delegation Arrives 11 May

SK1105104290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1000 GMT 11 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 11 (KCNA)—A delegation of the Pakistan People's Party headed by its chairperson Begum Nusrat Bhutto arrived here today by special plane for an official goodwill visit to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea upon the invitation of Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK].

Pyongyang streets and airport were decorated in a festive attire to greet the goodwill envoy of the Pakistani people.

Thousands of working people here turned out to the airport carrying miniature flags of the two countries and bunches of flowers in their hands.

Set up at the airport were a portrait of Comrade Kim Il-song and a portrait of Begum Nusrat Bhutto.

Seen there were slogan-boards reading "Warm welcome to the delegation of the Pakistan People's Party headed by its chairperson Begum Nusrat Bhutto !" And "Long live friendship and solidarity between Korean and Pakistani peoples !"

She was in company with members of the delegation R.K. Soomro, vice-chairperson of the Sindh provincial committee of the Pakistan People's Party and member of parliament; Qayyum Nizami, member of the Central Executive Committee, and information secretary, of the PPP; Ghiasuddin Janbaz, member of the Central Executive Committee, and political and educational secretary of the PPP; Iqbal Yousuf, general secretary of the Sindh provincial committee of the PPP; Jamal Khattak, general secretary of the North-West Frontier provincial committee of the PPP; Jamal Jogezai, general secretary of the Balochistan provincial committee of the PPP; Anjuman Ara Khanzada, private secretary of the chairperson of the PPP; and other suite members.

The guests were met at the airport by Yi Chong-ok, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and vice-president; Ho Tam, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the WPK Central Committee; Kim Pok-sin, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and vice-premier of the Administration Council; and other officials.

Syed Abdullah Shah, speaker of Sindh provincial assembly, Pakistan, and his party staying in Korea and Jafar Habib, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to the DPRK, and his embassy officials and foreign diplomatic envoys here were present there.

A welcome ceremony took place at the airport.

Chairperson Begum Nusrat Bhutto, accompanied by Vice-President Yi Chong-ok, reviewed a guard of honor of the three services of the Korean People's Army.

More than 100,000 people of the capital city warmly welcomed the goodwill envoy of the Pakistani people along the route from Nyonmot-Tong Gateway to Kumsong Street.

Goodwill Visit Hailed

SK1105061690 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0559 GMT 11 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 11 (KCNA)—All papers here today carry editorial articles hailing an official goodwill visit to Korea by Mrs. Nusrat Bhutto, chairwoman of the Pakistan People's Party [PPD], upon the invitation of Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea.

Noting that this visit to Korea by Mrs. Nusrat Bhutto following her visit in May 1976 is a clear expression of the deep trust and friendly feelings of the Pakistan People's Party and people for our party and people, NODONG SINMUN says:

The visit to our country by Mrs. Nusrat Bhutto will contribute to consolidating and developing still further the friendly and cooperative relations between the Korean and Pakistani peoples. It will also mark an important occasion in strengthening friendship and solidarity between our country and other Asian countries, non-aligned countries.

Trust of the people in the Pakistan People's Party (PPP) founded by Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto, former prime minister, in 1967 is deepening day by day.

Today the PPP under the leadership of Mrs. Nusrat Bhutto, is endeavouring to effect a new change in the economy, culture and all other realms of social life of the country.

The Korean people are sincerely rejoiced over the achievements made by the Pakistani people in the building of a new society and wish them greater success in the future.

The Korean and Pakistani peoples have established close bonds of friendship. The current visit to our country by Mrs. Nusrat Bhutto will record another brilliant chapter in the annals of the Korea-Pakistan friendship.

Strengthening and developing this friendship is beneficial to the building of a new society in the two countries and to the strengthening and development of the Non-Alignment Movement.

The Korean party and people will as ever make every effort for the strengthening and development of the friendly and cooperative relations between the two parties and two peoples.

MINJU CHOSON says the Korean people express the belief that the friendly and cooperative relations existing between the two countries will further expand and develop through the Korean visit of Mrs. Nusrat Bhutto.

Delegation Tours Martyrs Cemetery

SK1105114890 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1046 GMT 11 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 11 (KCNA)—Begum Nusrat Bhutto, chairperson of the Pakistan People's Party [PPD], on an official goodwill visit to Korea, together with the members of the PPP delegation, laid a wreath in the Revolutionary Martyrs Cemetery on Mt. Taesong this afternoon.

The guests observed a moment's silence in honor of the anti-Japanese revolutionary martyrs who dedicated their precious lives to the noble cause of national liberation and the freedom and happiness of the people.

They inspected the tower of the chuche idea and the May Day Stadium with 150,000 seats.

Hearing an explanation about the tower of the chuche idea symbolic of the greatness of the chuche idea and its brilliant victory, the guests saw the slabs from different countries which were displayed at the bottom of the tower and the group sculptures on either side of it and enjoyed a bird's-eye view of the grand and beautiful panoramic view of Pyongyang from the belvedere of the tower.

They saw round the interior of the May Day Stadium, being were briefed [as received] on the scale of the large stadium and its complex of sports facilities.

They were accompanied by Kim Pok-sin, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-premier of the Administration Council, and officials concerned.

Protocol Signed With Pakistan Province

SK1005110590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1017 GMT 10 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 10 (KCNA)—A protocol on the establishment of friendly relations between South Pyongan Province and Sindh Province of Pakistan was signed in Pyongsong today.

Present at the signing ceremony on our side were Kim Man-song, chairman of the South Pyongan Provincial Administration and economic guidance committee, Chon Yon-ok, vice-chairman of the committee for cultural relations with foreign countries, and other officials concerned and on the opposite side were Syed Abdullah Shah, speaker of the provincial assembly of Sindh, Pakistan, and his party.

The protocol was signed by Chairman Kim Man-song and Speaker Syed Abdullah Shah.

Egypt's Mubarak's Peace Proposal Praised

SK0505111590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1030 GMT 5 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 5 (KCNA)—The recent proposal of Egyptian President Mubarak for turning the Middle East into a zone free from such mass destruction weapons as nuclear, chemical and biological weapons reflects the vital demand of the entire Arab people including the Egyptian people for a peaceful settlement of the Middle East issue and it is in accord with the global trend toward peace and disarmament, says NODONG SINMUN in a commentary today.

The Korean people who want a peaceful solution of the Middle East problem fully support and welcome the constructive proposal of the Egyptian president and want it to be carried into practice, the news analyst says, and goes on:

to build and expand nuclear-free, peace zones in different parts of the world including the Middle East and Northeast Asia is an important way of realizing nuclear disarmament, preventing a nuclear war and defending world peace and security.

If the Arab people vigorously struggle in unity to convert the Middle East into a zone free from mass destruction weapons, they can frustrate the war moves of the imperialists and Zionists and defend peace and security in this region.

We believe that this proposal of Egypt will make an active contribution to further strengthening the unity of the anti-war, peace forces, developing to a new height the movement for creating nuclear-free, peace zones and thus achieving peace in the Middle East and the rest of the world.

Cairo Book Fair Features DPRK Exhibition

SK0704225290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1501 GMT 7 May 90

["Korean People Are United and Powerful People"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang May 7 (KCNA)—A DPRK book exhibition was held recently at the 22nd cairo internaional Book Fair.

Visiting the DPRK wing were about 260,000 people of difnerent strata. Among the visitors were Egyptian Preident Muhammad Husni Mubarak, and the speaker of the People's Assembly, the chairman of the Consultative Council and the prime minister of Egypt.

A public figure Shamir al-Mahri said that the looks of Korea are daily changing under the wise leadership of the great leader President Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Through the exhibition I have learned well that President Kim Il-song is a great man who has devoted his all to the people'slhappiness and national reunification, said a security policeman Nurdin Mussa, adding: the chuche idea is a priceless idea to the masses.

Amal Ali, a student of Cairo University, said: The more I read the dear leader His Excellency Kim Chong-il's work "The Present Times ad the Tasks Facing Young People," the deeper my respect and reverence for him grow.

Instructor of the General Bureau of Organization of Books Nasir Zararu Halari said he got a good knowledge of the united strength of the Korean people, adding: The Korean people is a people firmly united and powerful in the world. Recalling that the 13th World Festival of Youth and Students, a grand worldwide festival, was held with splendor on the highest level, he said: The world people, through the festival, could see that heroic Korea, the land of chuche, whose entire people are closely rallied around President Kim Il-song and dear Comrade Kim Chong-il, is standing imposingly in the East, advancing under the unfurled banner of chuche.

Egyptian President to Pay Visit 'Soon'

SK1005105590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1006 GMT 10 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 10 (KCNA)—Muhammad Husni Mubarak, president of the Arab Republic of Egypt, will soon pay an official visit to Korea upon the invitation of President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Syrian Institute Delegation Arrives in Pyongyang

SK0705110590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1054 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 7 (KCNA)—A delegation of the Syrian High Institute of Political Science headed by its president Muhammad Akram al-Ahmar arrived here today.

It was met at the airport by Yi Chi-su, president of the Chuche Academy, and Yasir Farah, ambassador of the Syrian Arab Republic to Korea.

Economic Delegation Departs for Iran

SK0805111390 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1032 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 8 (KCNA)—A government economic delegation of the DPRK headed by Kim Tal-hyon, chairman of the External Economy Commission, left here today for Iran.

It was seen off at the airport by Chon Il-chon, vice-minister of External Economic Affairs, Song Hui-chol, vice-minister of foreign trade, and the charge d'affaires ad interim of the Iranian Embassy and a councillor of the Chinese Embassy in Pyongyang.

Cultural Delegation Departs for Iran

SK0905110190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1025 GMT 9 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 9 (KCNA)—A DPRK Government cultural delegation led by Yi Mong-ho, chairman of the Committee for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries (CCRFC), left here today for Iran.

It was seen off at the airport Pyo Mun-han, vice-chairman of the CCRFC, and the charge d'affaires ad interim of the Iranian Embassy here.

Austrian Socialist Meets WPK Delegation

SK1005050690 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0441 GMT 10 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 10 (KCNA)—Bruno Kreisky, honorary chairman of the Socialist International, former chairman of the Socialist Party and former prime minister of Austria, supported the new proposal put forward by respected his excellency President Kim Il-song to pull down the barrier, ensure free travel and realise complete opening between the North and the South, saying it is a just one.

Giving impressions of his Korean visit, he expressed respect and reverence for President Kim Il-song, when he met a delegation of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] headed by Kim Hyong-u, vice-director of a department of the WPK Central Committee, on May 7.

British Communist Party Denounces ROK

SK0705052390 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0504 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 7 (KCNA)—Eric Trevett, general secretary of the Central Committee of the New Communist Party of Great Britain, sent a letter of protest on May 1 to the South Korean puppet ambassador to Great Britain, which strongly denounced the South Korean authorities for brutally suppressing workers and students in the struggle for the release of unionists.

The letter demanded the abolition of the evil laws which the South Korean authorities enforced to deprive the workers and students of all democratic rights.

It urged the South Korean authorities to release all the political prisoners including woman student Yim Su-kyong and Father Mun Kyu-hyon.

It criticized the U.S. Forces for occupying South Korea by force of arms contrary to the desire of the korean people and reaffirmed British Communists' support to the Korean people's struggle for the peaceful reunification of the country.

Delegation Leaves for Italy, France, Belgium

SK1105053690 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0518 GMT 11 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 11 (KCNA)—A delegation of the Supreme People's Assembly [SPA] headed by Yu Ho-chun, member of its Standing Committee, left here Thursday [10 May] for a visit to Italy, France and Belgium.

A delegation of the national resistance movement of Uganda headed by Asimuwe Jacob, member of the Executive Committee and Administrative Secretary of the movement, a Sierra Leonean delegation for the study of chuche philosophy headed by Daramy Rogers, first minister of state for Agriculture and Forestry, a delegation of the Tampere Institute of Peace Research of Finland headed by its director Vyrki Kakonen and a Ghanaian delegation for the study of the chuche idea headed by Christian Aggrey, editor of GHANAIAN TIMES, arrived here Thursday.

Government Committee Accord Signed With Zambia

SK0405045990 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0431 GMT 4 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 4 (KCNA)—An agreement on the establishment of a joint inter-governmental committee of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Republic of Zambia was signed in Lusaka on April 29.

Present at the signing-ceremony on the Korean side were the members of a korean party and government delegation headed by Pak Song-chol, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-president, and officials of the Korean

Embassy in Lusaka and on the opposite side were A.G. Zulu, secretary-general of the United National Independence Party of Zambia, and officials concerned.

The agreement was signed by the Korean ambassador to Zambia and the minister of higher education on behalf of the Zambian minister of foreign affairs.

Foreign Presidents Support 'New Reunification'

SK0705053190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0507 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 7 (KCNA)—The Presidents of Mali and the Federal Republic of Austria supported the reunification of Korea.

Moussa Traore, president of the Republic of Mali, when he met the DPRK ambassador to his country on May 4, said the party and government of Mali support a new reunification proposal put forward by his excellency President Kim Il-song and the stand of the DPRK Government on U.N. Membership.

Kurt Waldheim, president of the Federal Republic of Austria, when he met a DPRK Foreign Ministry delegation headed by its first Vice-Minister Kang Sok-chu on May 4, expressed the hope that Korea will be reunified at an early date according to the proposal for the confederal system advanced by the great leader his excellency President Kim Il-song.

Referring to the relations between the two countries, he laid emphasis on expanding cooperation in various fields in the future.

Cho Se-ung Attends Yongchon County Youth Rally

SK1005012590 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2100 GMT 6 May 90

[Excerpt] On 6 May, a rally was held on the spot by the youths of Yongchon county so that the members of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea [LSWYK] and youths can become the vanguard and shock brigade in the farming battle that we are faced with. Comrade Cho Se-ung, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, responsible secretary of the party of the North Pyongan province, and chairman of the People's Committee of the North Pyongan province; Choe Yong-hae, chairman of the Central Committee of the LSWYK; and other functionaries concerned participated in the rally with youth activists of the province and youth and students of the county. [passage omitted]

Yon Hyong-muk Attends City Workers' Meeting

SK1105055090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0530 GMT 11 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 11 (KCNA)—A national meeting of the active workers in city management was held here over May 9-10.

Attending the meeting were Yon Hyong-muk, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and premier of the Administration Council, and other leading officials.

The meeting discussed the tasks to effect a revolutionary change in this work and provide the people with more modern, cultural living conditions and environment by arousing the officials of city management and working people to the implementation of the new year address of the great leader President Kim Il-song and the decisions of the 17th plenary meeting of the Sixth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea.

It reviewed great achievements in the past city management under the wise guidance and loving care of the great leader and our party.

The party established a regular city management system of our own style and made sure that parks and pleasure grounds equipped with modern amusement facilities were built and a drive for winning the title of model city management county and for building up our villages and our streets was waged.

The meeting laid stress on building modern houses in towns and countryside, automating the operation of service water networks by remote control and solving the drinking water problem more satisfactorily by directing big efforts to the drive to further improve the people's living conditions.

It underscored the need to launch a drive for making cities look like parks as a mass movement and develop science and technology in city management.

Improvement of Railway Transport Stressed

SK0905004690 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0007 GMT 5 May 90

[NODONG SINMUN 5 May editorial: "Let Us Continuously Direct Great Strength to the Development of Railway Transport"]

[Text] Upholding the decisions of the 17th Plenary Meeting of the 6th party Central Committee, functionaries and workers of all domains and all units of national economy today are vigorously carrying out the struggle for production increase and conservation.

With the enhancement of the struggle for creation of the new speed of the nineties, the demand for transportation has been drastically increased. This reality demands that railway transport work be further improved and strengthened.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: It is very important in rapidly developing the overall national economy to improve and strengthen railway transport work.

The railway system is the drive [sonhaenggwan] and the artery of the national economy serving all domains of the national economy. Just as the body of a man can be healthy when its blood circulates properly, production and construction can be vigorously pushed ahead and all domains of the national economy can rapidly develop when railway transport is properly carried out.

Thanks to the party's wise leadership, the material and technological foundation of railway transport in our country has been incomparably strengthened. However, our rapidly developing realities demand that great strength be continuously directed to the railway transport work. Production is transport and transport is production. No matter how many new plants are built, no fruit can be borne in building plants and enterprises with a large quantity of materials and a large sum of funds, if transport cannot accommodate them.

With deep insight into the practical conditions of railway transport work, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song again clearly elucidated tasks and methods many times over recently for developing railway transport with precedence over other domains.

Dear Comrade Kim Chong-il took revolutionary steps to provide the railway transport sector with the necessary facilities and materials so that the material and technological foundation of the railway system can be further strengthened.

Functionaries and workers of all domains of the national economy including the railway transport sector should be keenly aware that one of the decisive guarantees for accelerating overall socialist economic construction to the maximum by more smoothly ensuring the balance between production and transport and for proving the worth of the existing economic foundation is giving priority to railway transport. Thus, they should continuously direct great strength to improving and strengthening the railway transport work.

What is more important than any other thing at present is to decisively enhance the role of functionaries and workers in the railway transport domain because the functionaries and workers of this domain are directly in charge of improvement of railway transport work.

The railway transport capacity which we have already attained under the party's leadership is indeed great. When functionaries and workers of this domain, who are directly in charge of railway transport, fulfill their role as the masters, the demand for transport in the national economy can be more properly met by effectively using the existing railway transport capacity.

All functionaries and workers of the railway transport domain, keenly realizing their grave mission of controlling the drive for the national economy, should responsibly and sincerely carry out their assignments in their respective outposts.

All functionaries in the railway transport domain should be keenly aware of the importance of their mission and should mobilize and use the existing transport potential, together with railway construction. They should maintain discipline and meticulously plan for the improvement of the technological (?conditions) of the railroads. Thus, they should thoroughly carry out this plan.

In addition, they should normally and vigorously push ahead with the work of producing and repairing the locomotives and heavy-duty freight cars, and maintaining and repairing the railroads, railroad bridges, and tunnels. At the same time, functionaries should very carefully lay the groundwork for organizational work for the implementation of the concentrated transport, container transport, and joint transport—a policy worked out by the party—and actively settle pending problems on the spot.

One of the most important things in improving the organizational work is to thoroughly institute in the railroad sector a monolithic dispatching and commanding system. Only when a monolithic dispatching and commanding system is thoroughly instituted can railway transportation be satisfactorily guaranteed and the nation's tense transportation problem be solved.

The railway transportation sector should establish a monolithic command system, moving only according to the directives of the dispatchers. The railroad transportation sector, after reviewing the existing regulations as a whole, should revise some regulations that need to be revised to suit today's realities, introduce new ones if need be, and should see to it that the railroad functionaries and working people thoroughly stick to them.

It is important to improve railroad stations. Only when railroad stations are improved can the railroad as a whole be strengthened and everything go as it should. The railroad transportation sector should see to it that they become functionaries firmly prepared politically and ideologically, technically and in business experiences and lead them well so that they can fulfill the tasks assigned to them with a sense of responsibility.

Our working class in the railroad transportation sector carry on the wonderful struggle tradition of having successfully guaranteed national railroad transportation by displaying a high degree of patriotic devotion in the days that immediately followed national liberation, during the Fatherland Liberation War, and in the postwar period.

If our working class in the railroad transportation sector do their jobs in the same spirit of heroic struggle as demonstrated by the railroad working class in the past, there will be nothing they cannot do in today's favorable conditions.

All the functionaries and working class in the railroad transportation sector, taking high pride and finding self-esteem in being in charge of the transportation front of the nation, should always fulfill the jobs given to them with a sense of responsibility and display mass heroism even higher.

In order to improve and strengthen the railroad transportation sector, it is imperative to enhance the role of the sectors concerned. To lift the work of the railroad transportation sector a notch higher while satisfactorily ensuring transportation is not easy and, therefore, this work cannot be satisfactorily carried out by the railroad transportation sector alone.

Since nobody can go on living without relying on railway transportation, everyone should pay attention to development in the railroad transportation sector and actively extend assistance to it. Ultimately, this turns out to be the work of serving one's own sector and unit.

Functionaries and working people in all the sectors and units of the national economy should never regard the work of easing the strained transportation problem as something that has nothing to do with them and should instead keep strengthening their material, technical, and labor assistance for it. Above all, responsible functionaries at the State Administration Council and committees and departments concerned should realize the significance and importance of the assistance given to the railroad transportation sector and lay the groundwork for the organizational and directional work.

The railroad transportation sector now faces a vast amount of tasks to be done. They should produce and repair even the freight cars and, after conducting inspection of all the sections receiving the service of the railroad, remove or replace defective elements and perfect the weak parts. Cargo loading and unloading should also be rendered more mechanized and the dispatch and command system should also be more modernized.

All such projects can be successfully carried out only on the basis of active assistance from the sectors concerned.

Recently, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has on many occasions given pronouncements on the need to accelerate the production and repair of the locomotives and freight cars, produce and supply to the railroad transportation sector materials, including steel products, on a priority basis.

These are the projects that functionaries at the State Administration Council and the committees and departments concerned should take entirely upon themselves in a way that dovetails them to the plans and organizes the division of labor in detail.

The State Administration Council should do a concrete job of organizing the division of labor designed to extend support to the work of perfecting the weak parts in the railroad transportation and should see to it that it is executed unconditionally.

The State Planning Committee and the committees and departments concerned should see to it that the equipment and materials already indexed to the plans are produced on a precedence basis at the beginning of every month and sent to the railroad transportation sector, actively extend assistance to the repair of the locomotive and freight cars, and more loading and unloading machines and equipment are manufactured.

Even the provinces, cities, and counties should launch all-masses movement for rendering assistance to railway transportation, while doing a good job of educating the working people, youth, and students so that they treat the railroad facilities with affection as if they were their own.

Lifting the work in the railroad transportation sector a notch higher is an all-party work. All the party organizations at all levels in all sectors of the national economy, including the railway transportation sector, should remember that only when railway transportation is placed ahead of other sectors can the party's economic policies be thoroughly implemented and should see to that they do better job of political work and work with people, all designed to effect new changes in the railway transportation work, so as to make all of the functionaries and working people arm themselves firmly with our party's transportation policy and display high mass heroism in the immediate transportation work, railroad construction, and in support for the railroads.

Let us all achieve shining victory in the struggle to create a new speed of the nineties by more vigorously joining in the work designed to develop railway transportation.

Railway Construction, Freight Capacity Grow

SK1005235690 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2143 GMT 10 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 10 (KCNA)—The railway workers of Korea are greeting their holiday (May 11) with great success in their work.

The railway transport workers across the country are now carrying 20,000 more tons of freight every day than that in the same period of last year by scrupulously organizing transport and its command.

The workers under the General Bureau of Northern Railways are daily carrying 10,000 more tons of freight.

Signal success is reported from railway construction sites.

The builders of the Anbyon-Onjongri line (over 100 kilometres) in Kangwon Province finished the roadbed project as a whole and are now topping their daily quotas 20 percent in laying rails and building structures and railway stations.

The builders of the Onchon-Namdong line are accelerating the structural projects.

The builders of the Taegon-Pongchang electric railway line finished the erecting of electric poles and structural projects in a 34 kilometre section and are stepping up the construction of a transformer substation at the final stage. The constructors of the Wiyon-Motga electric railway line are carrying out their daily quatas more than 1.5 times in erecting electric poles and building structures.

Meanwhile, the workers participating in the construction of a passenger coach and waggon repair base are overfulfilling their daily targets in the drive to create an annual capacity of repairing 3,000 coaches and waggons.

'Shipbuilding Capacity' Increases '1.3 Times'

SK0905235890 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1500 GMT 9 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 9 (KCNA)—Shipbuilding is in full swing at Korean shipyards these days.

The North Hamgyong Provincial shipbuilding complex and the Nampo shipbuilding complex are hastening the building of several 14,000-ton cargo ships at the final stage.

They are also making haste with preparations for the launching of 3,750-ton stern trawlers.

Entering this year, the Wonsan shipyard has manufactured all-purpose vessels on several hundred ton class and is now building several hundred and several thousand tonner ships including scientific research vessels and stern trawlers, bringing about new innovations in the work with each passing day.

Besides, the Sinpo and other shipyards and shipbuilding factories in different places are making many ships, big and small.

Korea, surrounded by seas on three sides, attaches great importance to the development of the shipbuilding industry and is increasing investment in this domain.

In recent years alone shipbuilding bases have been built or expanded and their technical equipment has been replenished and renovated, with the result that the shipbuilding capacity has increased over 1.3 times. The repair capacity has trebled as a result of the construction of ship repairing bases and of the large-scale, modern docks.

Today the nation's shipbuilding industry has developed into an independent, modern one capable of building various kinds of ships, big and small, needed for different branches of the national economy by its own efforts and technologies and with domestic raw and other materials.

Status of Farm Mechanization Reported

SK0905235990 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1507 GMT 9 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 9 (KCNA)—Transplanting of humus-potted maize seedlings, tilling of paddy and non-paddy fields and harrowing are in full swing in the Korean rural areas in the current busy farming season.

The agricultural working people had repaired and readjusted well rice-transplanting machines, rice-seedling plucking machines and other kinds of farm machines with the approach of the rice-transplanting period. Nearly all farm work including ploughing of paddy and non-paddy fields, sowing, rice-transplanting, harvesting and thrashing are done with the help of machines in Korea. The farm machine stations hold a very big share in the comprehensive mechanisation of agriculture.

The state set up the first farm machine stations in five counties in February 1950. There were more than 70 tractors and some 100 drivers at the five farm machine stations in those days. Today 40 years since then farm machine stations are found in all counties and their material and technological foundations have been strengthened incomparably.

Each station has hundreds of, or thousands of tractors, trucks and trailing farm machines and solid repair bases. More than 300 machine tools and metallurgical equipment of 68 kinds operate at the Yonan County farm machine station, South Hwanghae Province, which had only one lathe at a time of its formation. It manufactures by itself 5,000 pieces of accessories of 720 kinds including tractor engine bodies and cranks every year and even various materials. It has a solid repair base for more than 1,500 tractors.

The station made thousands of new farm machines of 28 kinds by itself in recent years to expand the scope and categories of the mechanized farm work by 60 percent in the county. The county is spreading a new era of mechanized farming with more than 10,000 farm machines.

Workers Increase 'Speed of Tunneling' for Iron

SK1105000090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2148 GMT 10 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 10 (KCNA)—The Musan Mining Complex, a gigantic iron headings production base situated in the northernmost part of Korea, boosted iron headings output 68.1 percent in recent 15 days above the preceding half a month.

Mine building workers carried out continued big blasting scaled at 3 million tons at 32 places to give a definite precedence to the production of iron headings and tunnelling workers have increased the speed of tunnelling 50 percent by keeping equipment in full-capacity operation.

The scraped earth conveyor station is topping the daily quotas of scraped earth transport 10 percent through the maximum increase of the operation rate of equipment.

The ore dressing workers have introduced advanced methods to boost the daily iron headings output 3,000 tons.

Entering this month, the miners of the Tokhyon mine are overfulfilling the daily assignments of iron production which are nearly double those at the comparable time last year.

They are maintaining a six-year and a fifteen-year lead in capital tunnelling and pit construction respectively to keep iron production going on a high level.

Rice Transplanting Under Way on West Coast

SK1105101090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0958 GMT 11 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 11 (KCNA)—Rice-transplanting has begun in rural areas on the west coast of Korea.

Agricultural working people across the country have nursed sturdy rice seedlings by tending seedling cold-beds with good care from early spring.

Cooperative farms in North and South Pyongan and North Hwanghae Provinces are carrying out their daily rice-transplanting plans at 120 percent by increasing the operation rate of rice-plucking and rice-transplanting machines.

North Pyongan Province has already transplanted rice seedlings in one hundred and scores of hectares of paddy fields.

Signal successes in rice-transplanting are daily reported from cooperative farms in Pyongyang and Kaesong.

New Research Saves 'Huge Amount of Steel'

SK1105000290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1507 GMT 10 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 10 (KCNA)—Researchers of the metal research room of the material engineering faculty of the Kim Chaek University of Technology in Pyongyang succeeded in developing micro alloy steel, which makes it possible to save a huge amount of steel.

They developed an alloy steel strong in intensity, tenacity and corrosion-proofing by adding new alloy elements rich in the country.

If this alloy steel is used, thousands of tons of steel can be saved in the construction of the Hungbu Bridge now under way across the River Taedong flowing through Pyongyang.

The researchers are pushing ahead with the researches to use the micro alloy steel in making heavy-duty waggons and heavy rails.

With its use the weight of each heavy-duty waggon can be reduced by 5 to 8 tons.

Researchers helped save a huge amount of steels by largely raising the intensity of bar steel for construction, various kinds of shape steel and steel sheets through heat treatment with waste heat obtained from hot rolling.

The results of the research collective there will help save more than 50,000 tons of steel in various domains of the national economy this year.

South Korea

Further on Continuing Nationwide Student Protests

Largest Protests in Three Years

SK1005073290 Seoul YONHAP in English 0705 GMT 10 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 10 (YONHAP)—Nearly 100,000 people turned out to denounce the ruling party Wednesday in largest violent protests in three years, leaving 84 policemen injured, National Police Headquarters said Thursday. The number of injured protesters was not known.

According to the police 1,864 people, including at least 10 who hurled firebombs at riot police, were still being questioned on Thursday afternoon. In Seoul, 235 people were arrested and 23 released.

About 52,000 firebombs were thrown and 15,720 tear gas canisters fired during the protests, and police seized 1,328 firebombs before the protests.

Some 39,200 people took part in street demonstrations and another about 53,000 students attended campus rallies across the country to denounce the unpopular party's official inauguration.

In Seoul, 15,000 people took to the streets and 19,000 students held rallies on campuses.

Wednesday's protests were the largest since June 1987, when more than 1 million people marched in the streets against President Chon Tu-hwan.

Leaders of Demonstrations Persued

SK1005135990 Seoul Domestic Service in Korean 1100 GMT 10 May 90

[Excerpts] Judging that the demonstrations staged on 9 May were manipulated behind the scenes by the People's Alliance and the National Council of University Student Representatives [Chondaehyop], the Public Security Department of the Supreme Public Prosecutor's Office today began an intensive investigation of approximately 20 people. Those people included Yi Su-ho, chairman of the Executive Committee of the People's Alliance; Yi Pu-yong, Kim Hun-tae, Yi Chae-ho, and Yi Chang-tok—leaders of the Alliance; and 13 leaders of Chondaehyop, including its chairman Vong Kap-sok.

The Prosecutor's Office will investigate 1,140 people who were arrested while staging demonstrations in 20 cities nationwide, including Seoul and Pusan. They will be investigated for their roles in the demonstrations and whether they conspired in advance. The Prosecutor's Office has decided to single out those people who led and manipulated the demonstrations from behind the scenes and to arrest them with warrants issued in advance. [passage omitted]

The Prosecutor's Office has decided to persue to the end and arrest those who burned the Seoul American Cultural Center by throwing firebombs. The Prosecutor's Office defined their crime as a terrorist act running counter to national interests. [passage omitted]

According to statistics from the Prosecutor's Office, about 51,500 students from 118 universities and colleges in 21 cities held on-campus rallies and staged demonstrations, and 25,430 people including students from 27 universities throughout the country staged street demonstrations. It was reported that the total number of firebombs they threw during the demonstrations reached about 30,000.

Protests Continue in Seoul

SK1105040090 Seoul YONHAP in English 0236 GMT 11 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 11 (OANA-YONHAP)—Street battles between helmeted riot police and protesters demanding the resignation of President No Tae-u and dismantlement of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party raged in Seoul and major cities across South Korea for a second day Thursday [10 May].

Nationwide some 13,000 students from 43 universities and colleges took part in the demonstrations, most of which developed into clashes with 30,000 riot troopers, police said. In hit-and-run demonstrations by students and dissidents in downtown Seoul, some 1,000 people were taken to police stations and about 100 demonstrators and riot troopers were injured.

Firebombs, tear gas, clubs, steel pipes, barricades and paving stones were all brought into the fray, and tumult is expected to continue for some time as the protesters have declared a protracted war against the government. A dissident umbrella group and the National Student Representatives' Council, a radical student body, have called for rallies every evening to build on the "success of Wednesday's protests," described as the largest and most violent in three years.

The student council is seeking to increase the outpouring of anti-No sentiment to a crescendo May 18, the 10th anniversary of the Kwangju uprising.

In Seoul, some 2,000 students occupied a 500-meter section of Daehak Street in the afternoon, hurling firebombs and stones at tear gas-firing riot troopers for 40 minutes as they chanted, "dismantle the ruling party. Step down, No Tae-u." The students regrouped in front of a cinema at Toegyero-4-ka in downtown Seoul in the evening and demonstrated until the late evening, hurling 100 firebombs and building barricades in allies.

Some 400 members of the umbrella group, which comprises laborers, farmers, the underprivileged, intellectuals, students and teachers, entered the second day of a sit-down protest at the Myongdong Catholic Cathedral after holding a rally.

Tax Administration Office Attacked

SK1105072290 Seoul YONHAP in English 0709 GMT 11 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 11 (YONHAP)—Six students, calling for the government to release a list of real estate owned by South Korea's large companies, stormed into the headquarters of the Office of National Tax Administration and tried to occupy the commissioner's office Friday [11 May]. They were subdued by guards within 15 minutes.

The students, from three universities, allegedly belong to a group calling itself the "do-or-die corps for the abolition of antipublic taxational systems." After throwing a dozen firebombs when a guard in the ground floor lobby challenged them, the students sprinted up the stairs to the fourth floor of the 10-story building. On the fourth floor, three entered a bureau chief's office and the other three entered a telecommunications equipment room, where they smashed windows and chanted, "disclose completely the real estate of business conglomerates."

Some 100 pamphlets scattered from the windows read, "scrap immediately the taxational systems that are plundering the people and publish a list of real estate owned by the big businesses." Big business groups have recently come under public fire on charges of corrupting the economy by indiscriminately purchasing land, and 10 groups put some of their land on sale Wednesday.

Arrests of Protest Leaders Sought

SK1105070890 Seoul YONHAP in English 0646 GMT 11 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 11 (YONHAP)—The prosecution said Friday that in order to create the atmosphere for peaceful protests they will seek arrest warrants for the masterminds of massive nationwide demonstrations calling for the dissolution of the ruling party.

Arrest warrants will be sought for some 20 leaders and officials of two dissident organizations—seven members of a nationwide umbrella dissident group and 13 members of the National Student Representatives' Council—on charges of abetting and inciting illegal demonstrations, a prosecution source said. Dissident leaders targeted for investigation include Yi Pu-yong, Kim Kuntae, Yi Chae-o, Yi Su-ho and Yi-Chang-pok.

In order to secure evidence against the 20, prosecutors are questioning 1,140 participants in the protests Wednesday and Thursday for information on the suspects' behaviour during the demonstrations and for testimony that can link them to a plot, the source said.

A professor identified only as Pak is under investigation because of allegations he helped instigate the protests, which were said to be the biggest since demonstrations against former President Chon Tu-hwan in 1987 and police estimate involved nearly 100,000 people. A joint team of prosecutors and police will be formed to make the arrests, he said.

The team will classify the 20 into five groups, locking members of all but four behind bars while releasing "abettors, rampant leaders, attackers of public facilities and blind followers in violent actions," he said. The prosecution is determined to track down protesters who torched the U.S. Information Service [USIS] building in Seoul since the attack has been defined as anti-state terrorism, according to the source.

"Violence in a democratic society can never be tolerated for any reason and we will use all our resources to find and punish these illegal protesters so as to create a social mood for peaceful rallies and demonstrations," Yi Kun-kae, chief of the prosecution's security department, said Thursday.

In Wednesday's demonstrations, 51,580 students of 118 universities and colleges (36 in Seoul) held campus rallies, and 25,430 students of 67 schools took to the streets, hurling over 30,000 firebombs, according to prosecution figures. Protesters attacked 23 public facilities, including the USIS building and police stations, and 247 policemen were injured, the figures show.

Editorial on Use of Violence

SK1105010290 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 11 May 90 p 6

[Editorial: "Violence Intolerable in Democracy"]

[Text] The package of special anti-crime measures designed to maintain social security and legal order announced yesterday by related Cabinet members including the home and justice ministers is to express the government's resolute determination to rectify the current disarray in our society by strictly enforcing law and establishing legal order. The anti-crime package was disclosed a day after Seoul and 16 other cities across the country saw anti-government rallies and street demonstrations, led by radical students, the most fervent and large-scale since June 1987, opposing the formal inauguration of the gigantic governing Democratic Liberal Party (DLP) on the same day through a controversial three-party merger.

The government has attributed the pervasive social unrest, political disturbance and economic slump, to a lack of public peace threatening the people's safety, characterized by the rampant occurrence of such felonious crimes as robberies, rapes, flesh trafficking and murders, unlawful labor disputes, violent demonstrations on and off campus and avaricious speculation in real estate, the crucial cause of the current economic difficulties.

Noteworthy is the administration's resolve as announced yesterday to promptly crack down on radical student activists and illegal strikers allegedly influenced by leftist violent elements illegally waging a political or ideological struggle.

The latest clash between the anti-government demonstrators and riot police involved street fighting between the warring forces during which the dissidents hurled firebombs and stones at riot police who fired teargas shells. In the lamentable disturbances, the U.S. Information Service building in Seoul was partly burned while several police offices and constituency chapter offices of the ruling party were raided by the protesters, paralyzing traffic in downtown areas for hours into the night.

The demonstrators' slogan calls for the breakup of the DLP and the stepdown of the No Tae-u government, adding fuel to the current sociopolitical unrest, accompanied by the economic plight, a serious situation described as a "total national crisis."

Early this week, President No himself admitted his ultimate responsibility for intraparty bickering since the announcement of the titanic governing party merger and maladministration with regard to economic and anti-crime measures. On the following day, the economy-related ministers made public a set of drastic antispeculation and price stabilization measures to arrest inflation and ease the people's economic difficulties with steep price rises, especially for housing.

The government and its party must reflect on themselves [as published] and understand why the fervent anti-government rallies, organized under the slogan of breaking up the new ruling party, received sympathetic applause from a small number of ordinary citizens who witnessed the clashes with riot police.

The vociferous activities by dissident students and radical opponents calling for national democratization since the inception of No's Sixth Republic government more than two years ago, apparently phased down from the second half of last year as an absolute majority of the entire nation became tired of their violent struggle resulting in social chaos.

However justifiable the reasons dissidents may have for their struggle, they ought not to resort to extremism and violence because these only invite powerful suppression in a law-governed state.

In spite of its maladministration, the No government was born legitimately through a presidential election conducted in the form of a direct popular vote. Accordingly, the dissidents' call for his stepdown from power, resorting to violent means, cannot be justified as being in the cause of liberal democracy itself.

The incumbent government, on the other hand, is once again urged to step up its avowed democratic reforms, as well as economic and other policies so as to really improve the living standards of the masses, in particular.

Hyundai Workers End Sit-In, Descend From Crane

SK1005094090 Seoul YONHAP in English 0841 GMT 10 May 90

[Text] Ulsan, South Korea, May 10 (OANA-YONHAP)—Fifty-one gaunt but still defiant workers clambered down from an 82-meter high crane at Hyundai Heavy Industries Co. Thursday afternoon, giving up a 13-day sit-in.

They descended the emergency stairs of the Goliath crane at 2:15 P.M. After a heated debate among themselves, during which hardliners called the move "unconditional surrender."

Yi Kap-yong, acting chairman of the union's emergency measure committee, said, "We ended our strike to reduce the damage to a minimum."

Boarding a bus waiting at the foot of the crane with the assistance of their companions, some workers shouted, "It's not the end. We will fight again."

Several workers were treated in hospital for ulcers and exhaustion, but no serious ailments were reported.

After a news conference at noon was broken up by the police, the workers asked to talk with So Mun-hwa, Hyundai's labor affairs chief, and promised to go down at 1:30 P.M.

Earlier the day, Sin Ik-hyon, a director of the firm, went up the crane to persuade the workers to come down. He reportedly said there was no progress on their demands, including the release of arrested union leaders. An estimated 100 union members and leaders at the nation's largest shipyard took to the crane to protest the use of police to rout thousands of strikers on April 28, three days after they went on strike.

Their numbers were gradually depleted as workers gave in to thirst and sickness. Since Sunday, when they tossed all their food and water down from the 30-story high crane, the workers had been fasting.

Police have arrest warrants for six of the 51, including Yi, on charges of leading illegal labor disputes but they will remain in hospital until their health improves, a company official said.

On Saturday or Monday, the shipyard will resume normal operations, he said.

Shipyard Reports 42 Percent Worker Turnout

SK1105082090 Seoul YONHAP in English 0731 GMT 11 May 90

[Text] Ulsan, South Korea, May 11 (YONHAP)—The strike-ridden Hyundai shipyard has partly returned to normal since militant unionists stopped their resistance, but it will take a few more days to complete the process. Hyundai Heavy Industries Co. decided to end its shutdown on Monday at the latest in an executive meeting Friday.

In the morning, 8,716 employees, or 42.5 percent of the day shift, reported for work, the highest attendance rate since the strike began on April 25.

The rate varied from a high of 80 percent to 20.5 percent as most blue-collar workers stayed home.

The strike at the nation's largest shipyard turned around on Thursday, its 14th day, when 52 hardline unionists who had been continuing their struggle atop the 82-meter-high "Goliath" crane came down.

The militants began their struggle with management, hunger and cold after riot police stormed the shipyard to rout striking workers April 28.

All but three workers who came down from the crane were found in good condition in a checkup at a nearby hospital and the three had been chronically sick even before the strike, doctors said.

The police are questioning 42 workers, including six union leaders for whom arrest warrants have been issued.

Of 900 workers detained by police during the strike, 18 were arrested, 112 booked without physical detention, 142 put on summary trial and 640 released. Four workers are under investigation, in addition to those who ascended the crane.

Since the police raid on the shipyard, 335 policemen, 67 Hyundai workers and four citizens have been injured during clashes between workers and police and 26 are in hospital.

Kim Yong-sam Apologizes for DLP 'Conflicts'

SK1105030190 Seoul YONHAP in English 0248 GMT 11 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 11 (YONHAP)—Ruling Party Chairman Kim Yong-sam promised bold democratic reforms and liquidation of authoritarian vestiges of the past regimes to save the nation Friday.

Fresh from being named no. 2 man in the government party at its national convention on Wednesday, Kim said the Democratic Liberal Party (DLP) would seek political reforms for democracy and liquidation of legal and institutional vestiges of past authoritarian periods. "I believe today's crisis in its entirety should be overcome by reforms in its entirety," Kim told a news conference. Massive anti-government demonstrations, the largest since President No Tae-u took office two years ago, erupted across Korea Wednesday and Thursday as student activists and dissident groups protested the formal launching of the DLP, an unprecedented alliance of the ruling party and two opposition groups.

Kim, a former opposition leader, said the DLP would root out real estate speculation, one of the causes of current economic problems, at all costs. But he warned, "Violent actions challenging the present system to go beyond reforms will not be tolerated, no matter what their causes." Kim apologized for factional conflicts inside the DLP prior to the convention and said, "We promise the nation that the DLP will be born again as new ruling party, earning your confidence and trust." Kim said he felt responsible for completely integrating the three component groups into one as DLP chairman and would not tolerate any action undermining unity and cooperation within the party.

Asked about constitutional revision to install a cabinet system, Kim said, "The power structure can be altered only when there is a broad consensus in the nation. Now is not the time to discuss revision of the Constitution but to concentrate party strength on overcoming the difficult situation." Kim did not rule out rewriting the Constitution, however. "I have said I would not leave out either the presidential system or the cabinet system and anything will do if there is a consensus," he said. There were allegations that a tacit agreement was reached among No and the two Kims in the process of the merger that Kim will become president after No's five-year term expires in February 1993. But Kim apparently is reluctant to the cabinet system while No and Kim Chong-pil prefer it and are expected to push for a revision of the Constitution.

Mentioning calls for dissolution of the DLP, Kim said the DLP will be tested in the 1992 and 1993 elections and attempts to topple the party by violent means are unacceptable.

Touching on Korea's policy of reaching out to befriend former enemy nations, he said, "There was discussion of normalization of relations with Moscow within this year when I visited the Soviet Union in March and both sides will be able to push for it through their foreign ministries."

66 Percent Say Situation 'Difficult To Resolve'

SK1105010790 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 8 May 90 p 1

[Report by Chong Chul-to, director of the TONG-A ILBO Public-Opinion Survey Department]

[Text] A public-opinion survey by our newspaper on President No Tae-u's special statement on resolving the current situation shows that almost 70 percent (66.2 percent) of the respondents said that "it will be difficult to resolve the current situation" despite the president's special statement, and only one out of four (25.3 percent) thinks that "the current situation will be resolved." Regarding the question of how well President No was carrying out his duty as president, 44.8 percent said that "he is not doing well," and 8.9 percent said that "he is doing well." This shows that the approval ratings for President No have drastically dropped. Meanwhile, in our newspaper's 25 February survey where 2,000 men and women across the country were polled, 41.3 percent said that President No "is doing well." Regarding the question of who is responsible for the current difficult situation, 26.1 percent cited "politicians of the ruling party"; 21.5 percent, "the president"; and 17.8 percent, "bureaucrats in the government." This means that around seven out of 10 people (65.4 percent) think that the government and the ruling party are responsible for the difficult situation. Of those respondents who said that it would be difficult to resolve the current situation, 41.2 percent said that, in order to resolve the current situation, "the government must more strictly enforce laws"; 24.5 percent said that "the president must make reforms as he has promised"; 19.2 percent said that "general elections for the National Assembly must be held to seek the judgment of the people" (early elections); and 11.1 percent said that "the prime minister and ministers concerned, taking responsibility, must resign." Therefore, if "stricter enforcement of laws" is classified as a conservative measure and if "reforms," "early elections," and "overall cabinet reshuffle" are classified as reformist opinions, those who favor reformist measures are leading public opinion by 5 to 4.

This was shown in a public-opinion survey that, under the authorization of our newspaper's Public-Opinion Survey Department, Seoul Marketing Survey took on the night of 7 May, the day when President No released a special statement on the current situation. Also, 1,600 men and women across the country were polled in this telephone survey.

Over measures to cope with real estate speculation, 44.9 percent said that "it is desirable to set limits on the ownership of real estate on legal terms," and 40.4 percent said that "it is desirable to levy heavy taxes on real estate speculation."

Also, regarding the government's decision to send in police forces to quell the strikes of Hyundai Heavy Industries Company and the Korean Broadcasting System [KBS], 68 percent said that "it was a bad decision," and only 24.4 percent said that "it was a good decision." This means that an absolute majority is critical of the government's use of public power in resolving labor disputes. Regarding KBS, 49.7 percent, about a half of the respondents, said that "KBS operations must be normalized and the KBS president resign at the same time; 21.1 percent said that "the KBS president must first resign, as the KBS labor union has demanded"; and 25.7 percent said that KBS operations must first be unconditionally normalized." This means that approximately 70 percent said that KBS President So Ki-won must resign to resolve the current dispute.

In the meantime, 13.9 percent support the Democratic Liberal Party; 15.6 percent support the Party for Peace and Democracy; and 12.5 percent support the Democratic Party. More than a half of the respondents, 53.1

percent, said that they "do not support any party." This means that it is clear that people are distrustful of the existing parties.

Editorial Opposes DLP Plan for Cabinet System

SK1105051190 Seoul HANGYORE SINMUN in Korean 9 May 90 p 6

[Editorial: "Are They Trying To Adopt a Cabinet System Without Asking the People Their Opinion?"]

[Text] In deciding on its platform, the Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] hinted at the change of a constitutional structure in favor of a cabinet responsibility system. All the people have come to have a sense of crisis because our society has been in confusion. We cannot understand why, under these circumstances, the DLP expressed its intention of adopting a cabinet system. Moreover, the report that this platform is a by-product of a collusion among the party factions makes us more distrustful of the DLP leadership.

It was learned that in deciding on this platform, the DLP and the New Democratic Republican Party factions agreed to the two-year term of party presidency, which President No Tae-u will assume, thus pleasing the Reunification Democratic Party [RDP] and that, in return, the RDP faction tacitly approved of a plan to hint at a cabinet system in the platform.

Because our constitutional structure cannot be changed without the approval of our people, we do not have to worry about it at present. However, the problem is the DLP's political deeds, which run counter to common sense. Is it time to move toward revising the Constitution in favor of a cabinet system? It is difficult to understand why the DLP referred to a cabinet system out of the blue even after it had described the current situation as an "overall difficult situation." If this is an overall difficult situation, the DLP must make overall efforts to resolve it and has no reason to refer to a cabinet responsibility system, thus stirring up the political circles and causing anxiety to the people. In this respect, we cannot help but be increasingly doubtful of whether the DLP is capable of carrying out political affairs.

Another thing we would like to point out is the fact that the DLP has always operated in collusion among some people. Important matters like a constitutional revision in favor of a cabinet system that are related to the political destiny of the country and the lives of the people must be discussed through fair, democratic procedures. However, some politicians who are operating the DLP have decided on all the issues through "give-and-take" among factions without considering the feelings of the people or holding intraparty discussions. It was learned that differences in views on the platform, which hints at a constitutional revision in favor of a cabinet system, have not been ironed out in the party. After going into a dispute over the term of party presidency, they reached an ambiguous agreement on this issue. Therefore, the issue of a constitutional revision in favor of a cabinet system may divide the party if political circumstances change.

The most important problem concerning a constitutional revision in favor of a cabinet system is whether it is all right for DLP leaders to dream of an extended rule and to make important political decisions as they please irrespective of the opinion of the people. They merged the three parties even without asking the people how they think of the merger, thus turning "a political structure in which the opposition parties have a majority of assembly seats" into "a political structure in which the ruling party has a majority of assembly seats." Even the president admitted that the current chaos in society was caused by the merger of the three parties. Nevertheless, the DLP is moving toward a constitutional revision in favor of a cabinet responsibility system, even though it knows that the people have a sense of rejection toward this system. They are again talking about a constitutional revision in favor of a cabinet system even though it is less than 4 years since the people successfully waged the June struggle to revise the Constitutional revision in favor of a direct presidential system. For this reason, we cannot help but doubt whether they are politicians who have reason. It is clear that they are maneuvering for the DLP's prolonged stay in power by way of a constitutional revision in favor of a cabinet responsibility system. They have differences in views on a cabinet responsibility system to a certain degree. However, they are only differences in political interests among factions.

On 7 May, 1,041 professors of 57 universities across the country pointed out that the current difficult situation was caused by the DLP's antidemocratic nature and policies and demanded that the DLP be disbanded. That day, after entering into the DLP headquarters, 21 university students chanted the same demand. Also, today, the day when the DLP will be officially inaugurated, the "People's Alliance" [the People's Alliance To Smash the DLP's One-Party Dictatorship and To Win the Vital Rights of the People] will hold mass rallies in 17 cities across the country to demand that the DLP be disbanded and that the No Tae-u regime resign. As shown, these days, democratic forces and students across the country demand that the DLP be disbanded and that the regime resign. Moreover, people say that the current situation reminds them of the eve of the "19 April" student revolution. At this very moment, only believing in the number of its seats in the National Assembly, the DLP, which is supported only by 10 percent of the people, is dreaming of a constitutional revision in favor of a cabinet responsibility system. Anyone will laugh at them.

In a humbler way, the DLP must ponder how it can alleviate the difficulties facing the people. First of all, the DLP must invigorate political activities and promote atmospheres for discussions and dialogue. Shouldn't the DLP convene the National Assembly and solve one problem after another there if the current situation is an overall difficult situation?

The people's criticism of the DLP is gradually getting vehement. If this situation continues, the DLP will be mired in an inescapable quagmire.

Kwangju Plaza 'Off Limits' on Anniversary

SK0705090390 Seoul YONHAP in English 0853 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] Kwangju, Korea, May 7 (OANA-YONHAP)—The mayor of Kwangju on Monday [7 May] banned gatherings in front of the offices of the South Cholla Government May 18, the 10th anniversary of an uprising in the city that resulted in nearly 200 deaths by official count. The building and its plaza were the headquarters of the students and citizens of Kwangju during their bloody 10-day struggle against martial law 10 years ago.

Mayor Choe In-ki declared the plaza off limits on May 18 because of "security hazards" and "traffic congestion." He pointed out that the plaza has been ripped up for the construction of an underground shopping mall. Choe said anyone wanting to organize a remembrance ceremony should apply to use another venue, and their application would be considered.

"All events and ceremonies related to commemoration of the 10th anniversary of the democratic movement should be carried out according to due procedure and abiding by the relevant laws," the mayor's statement said.

The statement said it was intolerable for student activists, workers and dissidents from outside Kwangju to utilize the plaza as a stage to overthrow Korea's "free and democratic system."

Adding their signatures to the statement were the governor of South Cholla Province, the chief of the South Cholla Provincial Police Bureau and the superintendents of education for South Cholla Province and for Kwangju city.

Asian Games Coverage Fee Set at $750,000

SK0805054790 Seoul YONHAP in English 0521 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 8 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korea has agreed to pay China 750,000 U.S. dollars for television coverage of the 1990 Beijing Asian Games this September, Korea's two television networks said Tuesday.

The figure was set in negotiations with the Beijing Asian Games Organizing Committee (BAGOC), during which it was also agreed that the networks will receive 10 hours of signals a day during the games, officials of the Korean Broadcasting System (KBS) and Munhwa Broadcasting Corp. (MBC) said.

BAGOC had asked for 1 million dollars and MBC and KBS had offered 500,000 dollars, they said.

A portion of the amount will be paid directly to some Chinese television stations, the officials said.

Japan is known to be discussing a sum in the region of 4 million to 4.5 million dollars for the TV coverage right, they said.

During the 1986 Asiad in Seoul, China did not directly contract the Seoul Asian Games Organizing Committee but paid the Asian Broadcasters Union (ABU), to which it belongs, they said.

Businessmen Plan Private Radio, TV Network

SK0705072190 Seoul YONHAP in English 0708 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 7 (YONHAP)—A nationwide organization of small- and medium-sized industries announced Monday plans to form a private radio and television network Monday. The Korea Federation of Small Business (KFSB), with 30,000 members, will raise 360 billion won (514.2 million U.S. dollars) to finance the proposed network, KFSB Spokesman Kim Chong-su said.

The announcement comes amid a wave of criticism of a bid by major business groups to build a private broadcasting system, which some people fear the conglomerates would use solely for their own selfish purposes. Kim said KFSB wants radio and tv stations to make small- and medium-sized companies more competitive and to prevent the conglomerates, which have a strong influence on Korea's mass media, from oppressing small firms.

KFSB decided it would be fairly easy to raise the needed capital based on a report made by a task force created three months ago to study the project, Kim said.

Korean businessmen in Japan could participate in the project, he said.

Information Ministry Spokesman Kang Hyong-sok said the ministry has no knowledge of the KFSB plan.

Information Minister Choe Pyong-yol told the National Assembly in April that the government had decided to permit establishment of a private broadcast network.

North Should Allow Visit of Family Members

SK1105022490 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 11 May 90 p 8

[Editorial: "Another Foiled Family Reunion"]

[Text] Family union is a natural right of man and was so defined at an international humanitarian law conference held in Geneva in 1979. However, a South Korean farmer's aspiration to visit North Korea to see his aging mother has been shattered to pieces because Pyongyang refused to guarantee his safe return to the South.

Han Pil-song, 58, who had a tearful reunion with his sister from North Korea in Japan in March after 40 years of separation, had planned to make a weeklong trip to North Korea from May 15 with the blessing of the Seoul government. But a telephone message from the North Korean Red Cross to its South Korean counterpart virtually rejected Han's demand that his safe return from Pyongyang be guaranteed. The message from the North said Pyongyang will ensure Han's safety during his stay in the North but that whether Han will return to the South is totally up to him and his family members including his 85-year-old mother living in the North.

Thus, North Korea once again betrayed the ardent wishes and hopes of our people and government for South-North family reunions. Transcending ideological and systematic differences, North Koreans should move forward along the humanitarian path to an agreement that all dispersed family members and displaced persons can freely be reunited with each other in the South and North. Pyongyang should allow Han to see his mother before she dies or permit the son's lifetime aspiration to wait upon his aged mother during her remaining years in order to fulfill his sense of filial duty. Nevertheless, we should not let such dismal prospects emanating from North Korea, wear down our patience and good faith in carrying on the humanitarian undertaking to break down the barriers step by step. Continued efforts are needed to promote the family reunion program by bringing North Korea round to a more open-minded and practicable arrangement.

Pyongyang's Refusal for Visit 'Dims' Relations

SK1105030290 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 11 May 90 p 2

[News Analysis by staff reporter Kim Hye-won: "North Korea's Refusal on Han's Visit Dims Inter-Korean Relations]

[Text] Pyongyang's refusal to guarantee safe return of Han Pil-song after his planned visit to North Korea is shattering the public optimism about changes in North Korea. It is also casting a dark shadow on the prospect of visitors exchange between South and North Korea.

The Seoul government approved the plans of three Koreans to visit Pyongyang in March, in the hope that their cases would set a good precedent for future exchanges of private people between the two Koreas. The hope stemmed from special features of the cases.

First, Han Pil-song was allowed by Pyongyang to be reunited with his sister in North Korea, Pil-hwa, in Japan early this year during the Winter Asiad. The officials believed that North Korea could not reject Han's hope for a Pyongyang visit because of the public attention which has been given to his case.

The second case was of Chang Il-pok, a woman in her 80s who wants to visit Pyongyang to see her son there, and the third, Kim Hyon-yong, retired professor of the University of Missouri who has recently recovered his Korean citizenship. Both Chang and Kim had already obtained invitations to visit Pyongyang from their family members in North Korea through their children living in the United States.

Considering that North Korea easily allowed Korean expatriates in foreign countries to enter it, Pyongyang visits by Chang and Kim appeared possible. Chang already left for Los Angeles early this month to join her daughter and plans to leave for Beijing as soon as they get visas to enter China. Kim also plans to leave Seoul soon for the United States where he is to join with his daughter who will accompany him to Pyongyang.

But the North's refusal to guarantee safe return of Han Pil-song to the South clouds the possibility of Pyongyang visits by Kim and Chang. The letter which Yi Song-ho, acting president of the North Korean Red Cross, sent to his southern counterpart Kim Sang-hyop Wednesday, was enough to scare Han, a 56-year-old farmer with four children.

In his letter Yi said that the North Korean authorities would guarantee the safety of Han and his wife but whether they would return to the South or not is up to the decision of Han, Han's mother and other family members. The North Korean also demanded that the south allow Han to visit Pyongyang not only with his wife but also their four children.

The letter made Han to give up his plan to cross the Military Demarcation Line (MDL) at the truce village May 15. Seoul officials say the letter clearly indicates the North's reluctance to accept Han as a visitor, which possibly originated from its unwillingness to open its society to the South.

"They may want to block Han's visit through making him give up the plan by himself," they said.

North Koreans are using a similar strategy for countering the South's proposals for resuming inter-Korean talks which they one-sidedly boycotted early this year. In a letter to Unification Minister Hong Song-chol, An Tong-su, secretary-general of North Korea's Committee for Peaceful Unification of the Fatherland, said, "The resumption of South-North dialogues is meaningless if the dialogues are only to disappoint the people again."

He also repeated the North's previous calls for the immediate halt of the Korea-U.S. joint military exercise Team Spirit, the removal of the concrete wall which it claims was built by the South and the South's acceptance of the North's offer to hold a conference of administration and political party leaders of two Koreas. However, he did not mention at all the South's proposals in detail including the earlier offer to resume the working-level contacts for arranging the conference of prime ministers of South and North Korea.

North Korea watchers say that these reactions from the North indicate a North Korean dilemma—the necessity for the protection of its society from ideological contamination from outside and responding in some ways to outside calls for changes and openness.

Papers Presented at Military Structure Seminar

SK1105023890 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 11 May 90 p 3

[Summaries of Papers Presented at a Defense Ministry Seminar on the Reorganization of the Military held at the Hilton Hotel in Seoul]

[Text] Dr. Cha Yong-ku at the Korean Institute for Defense Analyses: It has been predicted that the United States will station only roughly 10,000 troops here in 1999 by carrying out its three-stage force pullout plans, judging from the U.S. military strategy in the Asia-Pacific region conceived by Defense Secretary Richard Cheney. During the period of the force withdrawal program, the U.S. forces will seek to change their role from a leading part to a supporting one for the security and defense of Korea. The government should seek to reorganize the Armed Forces structure in the direction of the chairman of the joint chiefs of staff system to better cope with the unpredictable and uncertain security environment.

Brig. Gen. [Brigadier General] Yi Suk-pok: The Ministry of National Defense started to make a study of the Development Direction of the Long-term National Defense Posture nicknamed "Project 818" in July 1988. The Project 818 was keyed to realignment of the military structure for establishment of a self-reliant strategy apposite to the characteristic geography of the Korean peninsula, a cost-effective buildup and enhancement of flexible war-waging capabilities plus a balanced development of the three service branches. The Defense Ministry has tried unsuccessfully to reorganize the military structure four times since 1969. It is proper for Korea to employ the combined forces commands system in consideration of the short and narrow theater of war on the peninsula.

Prof. Yu Chae-kap at the National Defense College: What matters most in the disputed reorganization of the Armed Forces structure is whether or not "civilians" control the men in the military uniforms under the new military structure.

Under the projected reorganization of the Armed Forces structure, the chairman of the joint chiefs of staff is set to execute operational control over the three military service branches—the Army, Navy and Air Force. The chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff has the duty of controlling the commanders under the chiefs of staff of the three service branches, checked by them. To guarantee the foundation of civilian control of the military, a "safeguard" should be provided with the reorganization of the Armed Forces structure to the extent that the chairman of the joint chiefs of staff are barred from directly reporting to the President, bypassing the defense minister, the top civilian in the ministry's organization.

Prof. Yi Sung-u at Kyungwon College: Transfer of Defense Minister's rights in personal administration and operational command to the chairman of the joint chiefs of staff is not clearly described in the draft bill for reorganization of the Armed Forces structure. But it is possible to turn over the operational control to the chairman of the joint chiefs of staff because the draft bill stipulates that the chairman exerts operational command over the combat units of the three service branches in his capacity of an aide to the defense minister. Transfer of the defense minister's limited personal administration and operational control to the chairman must be visibly and clearly described in the draft bill.

Prof. Kang Kyung-shik at Soongshill University: The defense minister won't transfer to the chairman of the joint chiefs of staff operational control under the draft bill for reorganization of the Armed Forces structure.

Jurisdiction Over U.S. Personnel Negotiated

SK1005073290 Seoul YONHAP in English 0722 GMT 10 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 10 (YONHAP)—South Korea and the United States have agreed in principle to expand Korean jurisdiction over crimes committed by American soldiers stationed here, a reliable Foreign Ministry source said Thursday [10 May].

He said the two governments are discussing details of the revision of Article 22, the Criminal Jurisdiction Article, of the Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA), which Koreans frequently charge is a symbol of inequality in bilateral relations.

"If the article is revised as planned, Korean jurisdiction will be expanded to such crimes as hit-and-run accidents and drunken driving involving U.S. Personnel," he said on condition of anonymity.

According to the official, the two sides have been discussing the revision of seven other SOFA articles, pertaining to facilities and areas, non-appropriated fund organizations, health and sanitation, customs and duties, since 1988 and have made a "considerable achievement" in some sectors.

"The two sides noted in common that many Koreans who don't have entry permits are using non-appropriated fund organizations like the U.S. Army golf course during weekdays, causing other Koreans to complain. The U.S. Side said it would strictly control access without entry permits and send a list of Koreans holding entry permits to us once every six months," he said.

A report on the results of quarantines of U.S. Military personnel, food and agricultural produce will be sent to the Korean Government each quarter, he said.

He said the two sides had vastly different opinions on disputes involving Korean employees of U.S. Forces.

SOFA was signed on July 9, 1966, replacing the taejon agreement of July 12, 1950, and the May 24, 1952, Agreement on Economic Coordination Between the Unified Command and the Republic of Korea.

Foreign Minister Predicts Ties With USSR

SK1105095690 Seoul YONHAP in English 0945 GMT 11 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 11 (OANA-YONHAP)—Foreign Minister Choe Ho-chung said Friday he expects South Korea and the Soviet Union to set up formal diplomatic ties "in the not too distant future."

Choe also said the Beijing Asian Games in September will be an important turning point for relations between Korea and China, which are improving in various fields, especially in trade.

"Substantial relations between the Republic of Korea and the Soviet Union have been promoted, mainly helped by the exchange of consular departments and the opening of direct flights between Seoul and Moscow," Choe said in a meeting with some visiting delegates of the International Public Affairs Center (IPAC).

"I expect the two nations to establish official diplomatic relations in the not too distant future," he said.

Choe, citing the example of East and West Germany, said his country would push forward with efforts to gain admission to the United Nations because it could help reunify the Korean peninsula.

A group of 40 members of the IPAC, a nonprofit international organization of businessmen based in Europe, are now visiting Seoul.

Soviet Arrives To Train Women's Gymnastic Team

SK1105100490 Seoul YONHAP in English 0950 GMT 11 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 11 (OANA-YONHAP)—Nelly Kim, a Soviet gymnastics heroine in the 1976 Montreal Olympics, arrived in South Korea on Friday to train the women's national gymnastic team.

"I feel comfortable here, as if I was at home," said the 33-year-old former Olympic champion upon arrival at Kimpo International Airport aboard an Aeroflot jetliner with her five-year-old daughter, Movchan Nelly Balerievna.

Kim, born of Korean parents in the Republic of Kazakhstan, lives in Alma-Ata. She was invited by the Korean Gymnastics Association and will coach the national team, which has undergone intensive training in preparation for the Beijing Asian Games in September.

"I cannot say how I can train the Korean gymnasts... I will choose the best method of training after I have examined them. But three months is too short," Kim said.

She became a Soviet gymnastics legend when she won three gold medals at Montreal. She was later awarded the title of "sports heroine," the first time in the Soviet Central Asian Republic.

Head coach of the Byelorussian women's gymnastics team, Kim will be paid 3,000 U.S. dollars a month.

Official GDR Ties Expected 'by Next Month'

SK1105123490 Seoul YONHAP in English 1217 GMT 11 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 11 (YONHAP)—South Korea has agreed in principle to conclude diplomatic relations with East Germany by next month, a government source said Friday. The official said the governments of the two countries are expected to initial a protocol on formal relations through official contacts slated for this month or next month at latest.

The official said the two governments have discussed the establishment of formal ties through their missions in Washington. "Details concerning official contacts, such as their timing or venues, have not yet been finalized. But they will take the form of South Korean delegates' visit to East Germany or East German delegates' visit to South Korea," the source said. It could not be ruled out that officials of the two countries May meet at such third places as the United Nations to put final touches to their negotiations and initial the protocol, he added.

"The South Korean Government, which had taken cautious attitude toward the issue concerning official ties with East Germany in light of a movement for reunification in the two Germanys, has decided to push ahead with efforts to set up ambassadorial-level ties with East Germany as the East European country extended willingness to do so since March," he said. He said that the South Korean Government's attitude changed also on the back of a notion that it would take longer time than expected before the two Germanys' reunification is realized. The South Korean Government has already informed its West German counterpart of its intention to establish full diplomatic relations with East Germany.

Firms To Participate in East Berlin Trade Fair

SK1105025090 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 11 May 90 p 6

[Text] In a bid to expand trade with East Germany, the Korea Trade Promotion Copr. (KOTRA) sponsors an exhibition on Korean goods in East Berlin on June 14-17, KOTRA said.

A total of eight Korean firms will participate in the four-day fair which will display mostly consumer goods.

Trade negotiations will be held during the period, it said.

DLP Adviser Speaks at Beijing University

SK1105011090 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 11 May 90 p 2

[Text] Rep. Pak Chun-kyu, standing advisor of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party [DLP], made a speech to some 500 students and professors in Beijing University about the prospects for relations between South Korea and mainland China.

In his speech titled "Cooperative relations between South Korea and China during the Asia-Pacific era in the 21st Century," Pak emphasized that stability, peace and prosperity in Korea are in the interests of both China and Japan.

"The Northeast Asian countries should play a pivotal role in the upcoming Asia-Pacific era. For that end, cooperative relations between Korea and China are essential," Pak said.

Asian Bloc Without China 'Unsustainable'

SK1105013090 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 11 May 90 p 11

[Excerpt of speech by Representative Pak Chun-kyu at Beijing University on 10 May in Beijing]

[Text] First of all, I would like to emphasize that any scenario of cooperation would be unrealistic unless China is included. This is because of the very simple truth that China is "big" in every respect.

Because of China's strategic importance in the region and its immense potential, any regional bloc excluding China will be unsustainable in the long run. As Korean President No Tae-u told the World Press, a strong, stable, prosperous and peaceful China is essential to any East Asian plans.

The same argument holds true for Japan for similar reasons, and Japan should be taken into account. Thus we can see the importance of a "sub-region" in the Asia-Pacific region which covers China and Japan; that is, North-East Asia. And it is obvious that Korea is a centrally located member of this sub-region.

Although the three countries differ in size, ideology and socio-economic systems, they are located at the center of North-East Asia, serving as the engine of dynamism in the Asia-Pacific region. It is readily assumed, I submit, that a stable, prosperous and peaceful Korea is in the interests of China as well as Japan.

China as a global human resources superpower, Japan as a global economic superpower and Korea as a regional middle power can shoulder certain burdens. As the very least they can initiate leadership in facilitating efforts for multilateral cooperation.

Ideally, a fair division of the burden is necessary but in reality, it is not easy for countries to reach unanimous agreement. I would like to make only some suggestions for the sake of stimulating further discussion.

In comparative terms of more or less, rather than either or, one can delineate each country's role as follows. China can play an important role in enhancing security, supplying resources, providing markets and taking over labor-intensive industries; Japan in promoting liquidity, supplying technology and providing markets; and Korea in security, liquidity and markets.

As a huge continental power bordering the Soviet Union and North Korea, China is in a position to balance Soviet military power and restrain North Korean adventurism, the two main security threats in North-East Asia. China's abundance of natural resources makes bilateral relations with Korea and Japan economically complementary.

While Japan and Korea can offer machinery and intermediate goods, China can offer the raw materials necessary for their manufacturing industries. It is also important that China can provide high quality human resources. As the Chinese economy regains sustained and stable growth, it will continue to generate enormous markets for Japanese and Korean products.

Korea's most important role is to deter any war or any attempt at revolution in the South. Maintaining peace and stability on the peninsula, where Chinese and Japanese interests coincide, in essential not merely for Korean security but also for Chinese and Japanese security, as a military conflict would invariably involve their intervention.

Consequently, the major powers must make the utmost efforts to make available some of its innovative technology to other countries. The concern over the so-called "boomerang effect" makes no sense in the contemporary system of complex interdependence. When the Japanese economy generates more domestic demand, it will be able to absorb a huge amount of manufactured goods from China and Korea.

If the cooperative ties in North-East Asia continue to be strengthened, the region will become the center of the Asia-Pacific Era. For both China and Korea, such cooperation will be of undeniable importance as both countries move toward advanced country status in the coming century.

In the meantime, it is our common concern to remove any barriers to cooperation between our two countries, without which the "Pacific Century" may not even see the light of day. It is also the way to set the Sino-Korean relationship back on the right track as it was in past centuries.

Cabinet Discusses Asiad Preparations

SK1105064090 Seoul YONHAP in English 0633 GMT 11 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 11 (YONHAP)—South Korea has decided to make use of the Beijing Asian Games to expand contacts with China through various channels and promote bilateral relations.

In a Cabinet meeting Friday morning on preparations for the September Asiad, it was decided to limit the number of Korean spectators attending the games even though China hopes to attract as many as possible.

Prime Minister Kang Yong-hun, Deputy Prime Minister Yi Sung-yun, Foreign Minister Choe Ho-chung, Sports Minister Chong Tong-song and Transportation Minister Kim Chang-sik raised the questions of how to ensure Korea ranks second in the overall medal standings and how to guarantee the safety of athletes and spectators from South Korea.

The Cabinet also debated transportation and accommodation for the South Koreans.

Accord Reached on Raw Silk, Silk Fabric Quotas

OW1005063190 Tokyo KYODO in English 0607 GMT 10 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 10 KYODO—Japan has agreed to keep its import quotas for South Korean raw silk and silk fabric unchanged in the year beginning June 1, it was announced Thursday.

Government officials from the two countries also agreed to permit an increase of about 10 percent in the Japanese import quota for Korean silk yarn during two days of talks ended Wednesday, the announcement said.

Under the accord, Japan will limit raw silk imports from South Korea to 5,500 bales (one bale containing 60 kilograms), silk fabric imports to 5.95 million square meters, and silk yarn imports to 7,500 bales.

Japan restricts silk imports from South Korea and China to protect domestic farmers. Japan has been negotiating annual import quotas with South Korea since 1976.

Hyundai To Open Service Center in Vietnam

SK1105024890 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 11 May 90 p 6

[Text] Hyundai Motor and Kia Motors are planning to establish their after-service centers in Vietnam in an effort to promote car exports, an industry source said. The centers, it said, will be set up in two cities, one near Ho Chi Minh City and the other near Hanoi.

Since the export of cars began with Vietnam in 1989, Kia has shipped a total of 440 vehicles.

Agreement With France on Technological Cooperation

SK1105095090 Seoul YONHAP in English 0930 GMT 11 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 11 (OANA-YONHAP)—The French and South Korean science ministers agreed Friday to step up bilateral cooperation in the fields of basic science, aerospace and aeronautics, oceanology and atomic energy.

Korean Science and Technology Minister Chong Kun-mo and Hubert Curien, French minister of research and technology, agreed on the need to promote cooperation in basic science through joint research, continued exchange of scientists and information, and seminars and workshops, according to a minute book signed by the ministers.

They agreed to build a channel for joint research and cooperation between the Science Research Center and the Engineering Research Center of Korea and research institutes under the wing of the National Science Research Center of France.

Chong and Curien also agreed to increase the number of scientists exchanged between the two countries from 12 a year to 30 and to conclude an agreement of cooperation between the Korea Aerospace Research Institute and the National Center of Space Studies of France.

They agreed to encourage joint research and development efforts between relevant research organizations of the two countries in the areas of oceanology, nuclear, and biotechnology and genetic engineering.

Joint projects agreed Friday include the development of an unmanned deep-sea survey vehicle, study of the advanced fbr [fast breeder reactor] core concept, technical cooperation for spent fuel management and joint research between such Korean institutes as the Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology and the Genetic Engineering Center and the Compiegne Technology University in France.

The two ministers also discussed early inauguration of the mixed commission for cooperation in science and technology in order to strengthen government-level cooperation in science and technology, as stipulated in the agreement on scientific and technological cooperation concluded in April 1981.

Burma

Commission 'Postpones' Elections in Injangyan

BK1005140590 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 10 May 90

[Text] The Commission for Holding Multiparty Democratic General Elections of the Union of Myanmar [Burma] has issued Announcement No. 395 on 10 May 1990—second day of the waning moon of Kason, Burmese Era 1352.

Subject: Temporary postponement of elections in Injangyan constituency, Kachin State

The commission using the powers under Article 42-B of the People's Assembly Election Law temporarily postpones multiparty democratic general elections in Injangyan constituency, Kachin State, as it has been found that the situation does not prevail for preparation of the list of voters and for voters to cast their vote freely and fairly.

By the authority vested in me
Signed] Aye Maung, Secretary

Army Officer Discusses Karen Forces, Elections

BK0605033890 Bangkok THE NATION in English 6 May 90 p 2

[Text] Mae Sot—The Burmese army has reiterated its demand for the unconditional surrender of ethnic Karen forces and said it was ready to provide land to those who give up, a senior Burmese officer told THE NATION recently.

Maj [Major] Mya Maung Htun, deputy commander of the 97th extension battalion stationed at Myawadi, said there would be no peace talks between the Burmese army and the Karen National Union, one of a dozen ethnic groups fighting for autonomy from Rangoon. Karen forces can surrender their arms to the Burmese military or to Thai officers, but Burma will only accept unconditional surrender, he said. An earlier attempt by Thailand to bring about negotiations between the Burmese regime and the Democratic Alliance of Burma (DAB), the largest anti-government group, failed when Burma's ruler and coup leader Gen [General] Saw Maung flatly rejected any talks.

Mya Maung Htun said many dissident Burmese students had already given themselves up. Asked about the future of the about 30,000 exiles from Burma, mainly ethnic Karens, now taking shelter on Thai soil, the Burmese deputy commander said repatriation could come about only after the armed insurgents surrender.

The deputy commander, commenting on national elections scheduled for May 27, said that in Myawadi no campaigning by political parties had taken place and that local people did not appear very interested in the polls. But informed sources said political discussions had occurred periodically in Myawadi, but in small groups within the party compounds. The sources said the most popular party in Myawadi appears to be the National League for Democracy (NLD) of Aung San Suu Kyi, the outspoken opposition leader who has been under house arrest since last July.

Meanwhile, the Democratic Alliance of Burma ended a five-day meeting last week at its headquarters in Manerplaw, opposite Mae Hong Son's Mae Sariang district, pledging full support for all political parties inside Burma that promote human rights and democracy, a DAB spokesman said. Aye Saung, chairman of the Organization and Information Committee, said the DAB had no intention of disrupting the general elections and would wait to see its outcome. Dissident groups have denounced the polls as unfair because of the inability of Aung San Suu Kyi and others to participate.

Aye Saung said the DAB strongly supported the recently-passed law in the US proposed by Senator Daniel Moynihan that places an embargo on all products from Burma. The spokesman also said that Rangoon was trying to boost its international credibility by "stage shows" such as its recent burning of a massive cache of illegal drugs. Aye Saung accused the Saw Maung regime of being behind the drug trade, resulting in the appearance of thousands of drug addicts in Burma.

Burma's military regime has warned senior members of the National Unity Party (NUP) against violating election laws, official Radio Rangoon said on Friday [4 May] in a report heard here. The NUP was formerly the Burma Socialist Programme Party (BSPP), the country's sole political party headed by strongman General Ne Win, who resigned as president in July 1988. The BSPP was dissolved by then-president Maung Maung in August the same year after he promised to hold general elections. Officials of Burma's military junta, the State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC), have warned 50 registered political parties, including the NUP, against breaking election laws, the radio said. The officials were responding to questions by local reporters on why the government-owned WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY newspaper has been criticizing "other parties except the NUP." There are more than 300 registered political parties, but according to SLORC officials, fewer than 100 parties were expected to field candidates in general elections scheduled for May 27.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Singapore

Editorial on Joint Thai-Japan Naval Exercises

BK1105064190 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 9 May 90 p 28

[Editorial: "Security Role Not for Japan"]

[Text] Since becoming Prime Minister in August 1988, General Chatchai Chunhawan has on a number of occasions made pronouncements of a rather controversial nature. The most notable of these was his call to transform Indochina from a war zone into a market place.

Last Friday [4 May], he again caused a bit of a stir. According to the English-language Thai newspaper, THE NATION, a Thai government spokesman said Gen Chatchai suggested to the visiting Director of the Japanese Self-Defence Agency, Mr Yozo Ishikawa, that Thai and Japanese navies hold joint exercises in the South China Sea to enhance regional security in the event of a withdrawal of United States forces from the Philippines. If the statement is true, Gen Chatchai would be the first South-east Asian leader to propose such a role for Japan. Mr Ishikawa was reported to have promised to bring it to the attention of Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu.

In all likelihood, Gen Chatchai's suggestion was meant as a trial balloon. The Thais are not known to embark on important strategic moves without first preparing the ground properly. It stands to reason that they would want to hear their neighbours' views on this idea before committing themselves. After all, it is a matter of public record that other ASEAN leaders have lately been arguing that Japan should confine itself to a largely economic role. It is not immediately known whether Thailand sounded out its ASEAN partners beforehand; they have yet to respond publicly. What is certain is that the suggestion will generate considerable debate. Does it reflect Thai thinking on the evolving geopolitical situation in South-east Asia? Is Thailand sceptical that the US and the Philippines would be able to agree on an extension of the US bases? And does it also doubt that the US, after losing these bases, can maintain an effective military presence in the region?

If the Thais are indeed serious about taking such a step, they might well argue that it is a bilateral matter between Bangkok and Tokyo. But the importance of maintaining ASEAN unity and good neighbourliness would suggest consultation with ASEAN partners, and perhaps others, before so important a strategic move is embarked upon. If nothing else, there are the feelings of its neighbours to be considered. It must not be forgotten that while Thailand escaped occupation by the Japanese army during World War II, the rest of South-east Asia was not so lucky, and suffered grievously from that occupation. Memories of the atrocities committed by Japanese soldiers have not totally faded. Some are still fearful of a resurgence of Japanese militarism.

The collective security of this region is of paramount importance, and not just to those who live in it. Thus the implications of involving the Japanese militarily have to be thought through. Inviting the Japanese navy to participate in joint manoeuvres in the South China Sea might well be giving it a toehold from which other developments might follow. Notwithstanding the Japanese Constitution which forbids the Japanese Self-Defence Forces from participating in war games outside its territorial waters, the Japanese might find the strategic entree too great a temptation to resist. If it is in their interest to do so, they would have little difficulty finding ways to circumvent the constitutional constraints. There is also the question of how other powers, China and India, for example, would respond to such a development. Will they stand back and watch the Japanese navy roam the seas of South-east Asia at will? After all the breathtaking and totally unexpected changes the world saw happen last year, it would be foolish for anyone to predict that the Japanese navy will never make its presence felt in this region. For the moment at least, it is clear that everyone's interest is better served by a free-trading Japan helping the region to grow economically. There is no need yet for it to play policeman.

Japanese Manufacturer Opens Research Center

OW1105094190 Tokyo KYODO in English 0833 GMT 11 May 90

[Text] Singapore, May 11 KYODO—A major Japanese scientific and medical equipment manufacturer, Shimadzu Corp., has set up a research and development base in Singapore, a company official said Friday. Kenichi Maeda, managing director of Shimadzu (Asia Pacific), said the base, set up in April this year, will also act as the company's regional marketing office in the Asia-Pacific region.

Shimadzu has invested about 1 million Singapore dollars (about 538 million U.S. dollars) in equipment at the center which has a staff of 20. The center, which occupies 700 square meters of a building in the Singapore Science Park, a 110-hectare park for research and development activities will publish research and development results for scientists in the region, provide training in the use of instruments and application software, and provide consultation to researchers, scientists, and quality control personnel. Shimadzu has supplied medical systems and equipment to both government and private hospitals in the region, but does not have any manufacturing facility here.

Cambodia

Japanese Envoys To Meet Sihanouk on Talks

BK1105014190 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 11 May 90 p 7

[Text] Two Japanese Embassy officials based in Bangkok flew to China yesterday seeking a meeting with Cambodian resistance leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk, informed sources said. The sources, who did not name the officials, said the Japanese diplomats would urge the Prince to attend the Tokyo peace talks with Phnom Penh Prime Minister Hun Sen.

Meanwhile, Deputy Prime Minister and Defence Minister Chawalit Yongchaiyut said yesterday he was optimistic the talks would go ahead. "Believe me, everything will be fine," he said. "Our objective, and that of Prime

Minister Chatchai Chunhawan, is to make the Tokyo event most beneficial to Cambodia," he told reporters at Government House.

Japan agreed to host the talks at Gen [General] Chatchai's request, but recently Prince Sihanouk announced that he would take an extended leave of absence from the resistance leadership and would not meet Mr Hun Sen in Tokyo. Gen Chawalit said he had sent officials to meet the Prince in Beijing. He said the rival Khmer factions were moving closer together in their stances on the Cambodian conflict.

Sihanouk Says Phnom Penh 'Worried' About Return

BK1105115090 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 1100 GMT 11 May 90

[Text] His Royal Highness [HRH] Norodom Sihanouk said in Beijing on Friday [11 May] that the Heng Samrin-Hun Sen government's rejection of his travel to Cambodia clearly showed that the puppet regime was worried about the fact that the overwhelming majority of Cambodians would express support and allegiance to the samdech and that this was clear proof that the regime did not have the goodwill to bring reconciliation and peace to Cambodia.

HRH Norodom Sihanouk announced a leave of absence from the post of Cambodia's head of state and the chairmanship of the Cambodian national resistance movement on 7 May, saying he wished to carry out a crusade for the rehabilitation of his people and the reconstruction of his country. He appealed for international aid and said he would bring the aid to Cambodia.

In his message today, HRH Norodom Sihanouk said the rejection by the Heng Samrin-Hun Sen regime showed the regime was worried that the overwhelming majority of Cambodians in the country would express their support and allegiance to him. Moreover, it was because the Heng Samrin-Hun Sen regime was afraid his travel accompanied by humanitarian aid groups would expose the truth about the regime's wrongdoings, such as its handing over of territory to Vietnam by moving the border markers deeper into the country and its allowing Vietnam to colonize Cambodian territory with some border provinces—such as Ratanakiri, Mondolkiri, and Stung Treng—placed directly under local Vietnamese authorities.

On the same occasion, the samdech stressed that he had decided to get out of politics, but he would like to point out that the Hun Sen-Sihanouk talks would in no way serve the cause of peace in Cambodia. It would be a never-ending theater, he said. In order to bring peace back to Cambodia, it is necessary to unreservedly push for quadripartite negotiations and the formation of a provisional quadripartite coalition government of national reconciliation in Cambodia. The samdech planned to return to the liberated zone in Oddar Meanchey Province on 16 May.

VODK on SRV Appeal for Relations With West

BK1105054890 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 10 May 90

[Station commentary: "Why Does Nguyen Van Linh Appeal to Countries That He Has Branded as Vietnam's Enemies for Normalization of Relations?"]

[Text] Lately, the Hanoi authorities have repeatedly pleaded for aid to Vietnam and normalization of relations with countries in the West. The Hanoi ringleader, Nguyen Van Linh, has openly declared that Vietnam would allow Japan and the United States to use the Cam Ranh naval base if they agreed to normalize relations with the SRV. Nguyen Van Linh added that if he were allowed, he would visit China in order to promote relations between the two countries.

Why did the Hanoi authorities shamelessly ask for the normalization of relations with countries they have branded as their enemies? This is because they are in deep water and have their backs to the wall from:

1. Being terribly isolated from the international arena. At present, the country which still takes sides with Vietnam is its Soviet boss. Some countries that have supported Vietnam in the past have dissociated themselves one after another from Vietnam after having blown the cover off its perfidious scheme of annexing Cambodia and the region. In recent days, the East European countries, which were Vietnam's staunch political, diplomatic, economic, and military backers in the war of aggression against Cambodia, have moved away from and ceased giving aid to Vietnam. Moreover, they have expelled tens of thousands of Vietnamese workers. The Soviet Union is in a jam because its downward economy is far behind those in developing countries; the Soviet people's living standard has not been improved for years; and the pro-independence movements by various ethnic groups have resurged. That being the case, the Soviet Union's support and assistance to Vietnam seem insecure.

2. Facing serious economic difficulties for 10 years and lacking support and assistance from Eastern Europe. This has cause great unexpected troubles for the Hanoi leadership. The downfall of the Vietnamese economy and the radical reforms in the Soviet-bloc socialist countries have triggered growing discontent among the Vietnamese people. The latter wonder whether the Hanoi authorities are promoting Vietnam's prosperity or ruining the country and the people. There exists the growing belief that the Hanoi authorities are arch criminals sabotaging the Vietnamese nation and people and endangering peace, security, and stability in the whole region.

In this situation, if the Hanoi leaders do not improve the Vietnamese economy, the radical changes from Eastern Europe will threaten their lives. Facing this serious problem, the Vietnamese leaders are actively seeking aid from the West and pleading for normalization of relations with Japan, the United States, and China, countries which Vietnam had considered its foes. However, the Vietnamese enemies cannot deceive the people at will. Japan, the United States, and China have recently reiterated that only a complete withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Cambodia under UN control and supervision, and Vietnam's acceptance of a just and durable comprehensive political solution to the Cambodian problem can encourage them to normalize relations with Vietnam.

Consequently, the survival of the Hanoi regime depends on an early termination of the Vietnamese war of aggression in Cambodia. Only by ending the war can Vietnam normalize relations with countries throughout the world, restore its economy, and improve the living conditions of the Vietnamese people. Vietnam can in no way continue implementing the policy of aggression and annexation and at the same time rebuild its economy. This is the reality the Hanoi leadership can never change.

KPNLF Claim To Attack Heng Samrin Bases

BK1105013190 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 11 May 90 p 7

[Text] Prachin Buri—The Khmer People's National Liberation Front [KPNLF] yesterday claimed it had dispatched a battalion of more than 1,000 soldiers to attack three Heng Samrin bases along the Thai-Cambodian border, opposite Ta Phraya District. KPNLF border sources said the soldiers were from Zone 3 Division under the command of Maj-Gen [Major-General] Khor Chhea, and from the Special Combat Unit 806, under the command of Col [Colonel] Pen Loe. They had orders to attack Heng Samrin bases in Kok Mon, Ban O-Kanh-Chor and Ban Boeng Beng, some five kilometres inside Cambodia opposite Ban Samlor Chha-Nhanh about 15 kilometres north of Ta Phraya.

Sounds of gunfire and heavy artillery can be clearly heard along the border but neither the Border Patrol Police [BPP] nor the military in the area have reported casualties on the Thai side. Both the BPP and the military said all responsible units were prepared while the number of land and air patrols along the border area had increased. KPNLF sources claimed they killed 15 Heng Samrin soldiers and destroyed two Soviet-made T-54 tanks. A number of Heng Samrin soldiers were also wounded.

Paper on Importance of Strong Grass-Roots Units

BK1105075190 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2300 GMT 10 May 90

[PRACHEACHON editorial: "Vigorously Strengthen the Political Quality of the Armed Forces Grass-Roots Units"—date not given]

[Text] At present and in the future, the struggle between our side and the enemy will continue to be tense, arduous, complex, and resolute. The genocidal gang of Pol Pot, Sihanouk, and Son Sann has taken advantage of the goodwill of the State of Cambodia who withdrew Vietnamese volunteer troops 18 months ahead of the deadline. They have launched military offensives and conducted maneuvers to obstruct a political solution to the problem, using the military to attack and seize a number of areas along the border. Grass-roots units have thus become their main battlefields and initial targets.

However, all their attempts have been immediately frustrated by our grass-roots forces closely cooperating with the regular and regional Armed Forces as well as local people. Therefore, under whatever conditions, with the leadership of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party, our entire Armed Forces are determined to fight and win and vigorously build firm and powerful grass-roots units.

Drawing from experiences in 1989 and after the first and second quarters of 1990, we have found that all our Armed Forces grass-roots units have excelled in leadership, command, and combat and have greatly developed and consolidated themselves. Party committees at all levels, command committees of all units, as well as cadres and combatants, should clearly understand that grass-roots units are where every soldier gets political and ideological indoctrination and technical and tactical training. They are where cadres and combatants are tested and tempered in all fields of combat, instruction, mass proselytization, and production. They are also where resolute, life-or-death, and bloody armed contests with the enemy take place. Therefore, grass-roots units are centers for training, indoctrination, and tempering cadres and party members; they are the sources from which army cadres are recruited and are the best breeding ground for developing party and youth union members.

The overall objective presently and in the years to come is to concentrate on developing in grass-roots units high combat readiness, the potential to successfully carry out combat duties, and the ability to function under all circumstances and on all battlefields. The actual thing to do is to build and consolidate in them all aspects by concentrating mainly on the development and consolidation of their political quality. For this task to be carried out successfully and efficiently in 1990, all levels from central to grass roots and all sectors, especially grass-roots units themselves, must pay attention to four essential points in order to ensure the improvement in leadership and development of grass-roots units.

The first is to enhance political indoctrination and ideological guidance to enable cadres and combatants to firmly grasp the party's political line, see the direction taken by the party, differentiate friend from foe, uphold the spirit of close solidarity, possess a high degree of combat determination, and resolve to fight and win over the enemy under all circumstances. At the same time, it is imperative to enhance party leadership and strengthen the efficiency of organized bodies at all levels. To make the units strong, powerful, victorious over the enemy, and successful in all tasks, we must strengthen and enhance the party leadership by taking the task of building a strong and clean, centralized, and united party capable of providing good leadership as the core in the efforts to consolidate grass-roots units.

To further advance grass-roots units, we must build and consolidate the ranks of cadres numerically and qualitatively. Whether the direct leadership of grass-roots units is strong or not depends on the cadres. Therefore, it is required that cadres should set good, outstanding examples in all fields, that they should be attributed with great leadership qualities, and that they should be bright, quick and capable of fulfilling all tasks entrusted to them. The building of cadres, especially principal cadres, is for them to have good morals and discipline and be hard-working, thrifty, concerned for subordinates and combatants, highly self-reliant and inventive, and able to solve all emergencies and meet subordinate demands.

The fourth factor is to accelerate the leadership in implementing mass proselytization work. Grass-roots units should conduct mass proselytization to the best of their ability as the masses constitute the firm support base, the source of strength, and the place where all kinds of life support can be found. Therefore, it is imperative to win the trust, support, and confidence of the masses.

The party committees, party chapters, and political organizations at all levels should be highly determined to motivate as many cadres and combatants as possible to understand the important objective and significance of the task of presently building and consolidating grass-roots units. They should do this by exhorting them to participate in carrying out this task and linking it to their daily chores. If grass-roots units everywhere in the country succeed in consolidating their political quality, they will be highly capable in combat as well as in all-around self-development.

Battle 'Successes' in Kompong Thom Reported

BK1005081390 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 10 May 90

[Text] On 1 May, Kompong Thom Province's Armed Forces cooperated with police units in Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province in mounting remarkably successful search-and-destroy operations against the enemy at Chambak Panh-nha in Stoung District. As a result, 18 Son Sann soldiers were captured, many others killed, and two wounded. Moreover, we seized 13 guns and a quantity of war material. Losing the courage to fight, two Son Sann soldiers, who brought along a B-40 rocket launcher and three rockets, surrendered to our local authorities. The combatants were appropriately commended and rewarded by the army command on the battlefield for their successes.

It is worth recalling that since the launching of mopping-up operations against the enemy throughout Kompong Thom Province between 17 April and 2 May, 306 enemy soldiers of all categories were put out of action—including 134 killed, 142 wounded, 22 captured, and eight surrendered—55 assorted guns and a quantity of war material were seized, and a great many firearms were destroyed. During the same period, our Armed Forces in Stoung District put out of action 170 enemy soldiers, including 74 killed on the spot, 90 wounded, two captured, and four surrendered. We seized 26 assorted weapons, 20 kg of TNT plastic explosive, and a great deal of war material.

Laos

Leaders To Discuss Constitution Draft at Meeting

BK1005142190 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 10 May 90

[Text] A meeting was held in Vientiane this morning to launch a movement to hold discussions on the draft of the first constitution of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] among cadres throughout the country. The meeting was chaired by Nouhak Phoumsavan, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly [SPA], and chairman of the Constitution Drafting Committee; and attended by Phoumi Vongvichit, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, acting president of state, and chairman of the Lao Front for National Construction Central Committee; Sali Vongkhamsao, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, minister of economy, planning, and finance; Somlat Chanthamat, secretary of the party Central Committee and head of the party Central Committee Propaganda and Training Board; SPA members; ministers; deputy ministers; and a large number of senior cadres attached to the party Central Committee and from all provinces throughout the country.

During the three-day meeting, on the first day the participants heard the instruction issued by the party Central Committee Secretariat on the opening of a campaign to hold discussions among cadres and people to express views on the draft constitution. The instruction was read at the meeting by Thongsing Thammavong, vice chairman of the SPA.

After that, SPA Chairman Nouhak Phoumsavan presented the draft constitution at the meeting. The draft constitution is composed of the introduction and 73 articles. The introduction touches on the historical background and the necessity to compile the first constitution of the LPDR. The first section discusses the political system; the second, the socioeconomic system; the third, the rights and obligations of citizens; the fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, and eighth, the establishment of state apparatuses; the ninth, the written alphabets, the language, the national emblem, the national anthem, and the capital; and the tenth, the power and regulations on the amendment of the constitution. After the presentation of the draft constitution, the participating cadres were set to study and to express views on the draft constitution with a view to making it a complete constitution for promulgation in the near future.

'First Ambassador' to Indonesia Appointed

BK0805085290 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] This morning, acting President Phoumi Vongvichit handed credentials to Phanthong Phommahasai, former director of the Information Department of the Foreign Affairs Ministry, to be accredited as the first ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] to the Republic of Indonesia. The LPDR and the Republic of Indonesia established diplomatic relations on 30 August 1957. In 1962, the Republic of Indonesia opened its diplomatic mission in Vientiane while the LPDR did likewise in Jakarta in August 1989.

Social Science Delegation Leaves for PRC

BK0805122090 Vientiane KPL in English 0904 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] Vientiane, May 8 (KPL)—A delegation of the Social Science Committee of the Lao People's Democratic Republic led by its president Sisana Sisan, on May 6 left for Kunming, the People's Republic of China, to attend a seminar on the study of "Tai" tribes.

"Tai" is the people of mainland Southeast Asia, including the Thai or Siamese (in central and southern Thailand), the Lao (in Laos and northern Thailand), the Shan (in northeast Myanmar [Burma]), the Lu (primarily in Yunnan Province, China, but also in Burma, Laos, northern Thailand and Vietnam), the Yunnan Tai (the major Tai group in Yunnan), and the tribal Tai (in northern Vietnam).

Seeing the delegation off at the airport were Mr Nouphan Sitphasai, vice president of the committee and some senior officials in the committee.

Mr. Liang Feng, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the People's Republic of China to Laos was also on hand.

Committee Extends Sympathy to PRC on Earthquake

BK1105102090 Vientiane KPL in English 0935 GMT 11 May 90

[Text] Vientiane, May 11 (KPL)—The Lao Committee for Peace, Solidarity, and Friendship With Nations has recently sent a telegram of sympathy to the Chinese Association for Peace and Disarmament and the Chinese Association for Friendship With Nations.

Extending condolences and sympathy over a serious earthquake at Qinghai Province of the People's Republic of China, the message expressed the conviction that under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party and with the hard-working tradition of Chinese people, the people in the affected area would be able to better and normalize their living.

Philippines

Suspected Killers of U.S. Sergeant Charged

HK1105064190 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0600 GMT 11 May 90

[Text] The suspects in the killing of U.S. Marine Sergeant John Fredette will be charged with murder and illegal possession of firearms instead of homicide and attempted robbery. The Olongapo City police will file the charges against William Burke, Reynato Angeles, and Johnny (Tiplong). Earlier, the city prosecutor's office ordered the release of the suspects as their arrest was allegedly illegal. Despite the order, the police continued to hold the suspects and charged them with another crime. The police say they possess strong evidence gathered from testimony of witnesses. Fredette was killed 5 May in Olongapo City.

Aquino Assures Security of U.S. Panelists

HK1105095490 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 11 May 90

[Text] President Corazon Aquino gave assurance about the security of members of the U.S. panel to the exploratory talks. From Malacanang, Dick Sinchongco has the report:

[Begin recording] The Philippine Government today gave assurance about the security of members of the U.S. panel to the exploratory talks on the U.S. military bases. Mrs. Aquino asserted that the government will exert all efforts to ensure the safety of the U.S. delegation led by former U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for East Asia and Pacific Affairs Richard Armitage.

The president stressed that it was the responsibility of the Philippine Government to provide security to members of the U.S. panel. She gave the assurance after U.S. Ambassador to the Philippines Nicholas Platt aired concerns about the issue.

Yesterday, Capcom [Capital Regional Command] chief Brigadier General Marino Filart briefed the president on the details of the security measures for the U.S. negotiators.

The exploratory talks are to start on Monday, 14 May. It will be met with protest actions by militant antibases groups. [end recording]

In a related development, some 500 Capcom men will be deployed at the Central Bank, site of the exploratory talks. Details from Eloi Aquino:

[Begin recording] Some 500 Capcom men will be deployed around the Central Bank along Roxas Boulevard and nearby areas in Metro Manila to check possible disruptions by various labor and other cause-oriented organizations in the country when exploratory talks on the U.S. bases start on Monday.

Capcom chief Brigadier General Marino Filart stated that his men and other members of the Western Police District [WPD] are fully prepared for the talks at the Central Bank. He added that the U.S. Embassy and unnamed hotels where the U.S. representatives are billeted will also be under close guard to ensure the security of the Americans.

Filart also said that if labor and cause-oriented groups initiate protest actions, they will not be allowed to get close to these designated places. He expressed the belief that aside from rallies, picketing and vigils, the demonstrators will not carry out massive disturbances. However, should elements from the communist rebels or rebel soldiers take advantage of the protest action, Filart maintained that his men are prepared to contain any such threats.

The Capcom chief also said that the Civil Disturbance Control Unit of Capcom will be on alert throughout the duration of the talks. He said that a command post may be set up across from the Central Bank and will act the center for administration of Capcom and police personnel.

Filart said that traffic in front of the Central Bank may be rerouted to keep the area clear of vehicles. [end recording]

Manglapus on U.S. Shortfall, Termination Notice

HK1005133190 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 1300 GMT 10 May 90

[Italicized portions in English]

[Text] The Philippine Government will not accept just a promise by the U.S. with regards to its failure to comply with its financial obligation on the remaining two year stay of its military bases in the country. In an interview, Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus stressed that the Philippines will not hold talks again until the U.S. assures of payment of a $96 million commitment slashed by U.S. Congress. Manglapus refused to say whether a notice of termination of the bases will be issued at the start of the bases exploratory talks on Monday, but said that anything could happen.

Meanwhile, Capital Region Command chief General Marino Filart announced that everything is ready for the exploratory talks on 14 May at the Central Bank building. Filart assured the safety of the bases talks' panel members following a strike by the 1 May Movement [KMU].

[Begin recording] [Filart] *I was asked about security arrangement on this coming RP[Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. exploratory talks at the Central Bank building.*

[Reporter's question indistinct]

[Filart] *No, but we expect certainly that there will be demonstrators, but we are prepared. As usual, we will have most of the job done by the Western Police District. The same preparations as any other times when we expect demonstrations. We feel that we can handle the situation.* [end recording]

In related news, the Trade Union Congress of the Philippines denied it will participate in the anti-U.S. bases rally by the KMU on Monday, 14 May.

Philippine Members of Bases Panel Announced

HK1105092890 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 11 May 90

[Text] Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus announced that the Philippine panel is ready for the bases' exploratory talks to be held at the Central Bank Building starting Monday, 14 May. Making up the panel are: Health Secretary Alfredo Bengzon, Secretary Jose de Jesus, Ambassador Raul Rabe, and Defense Under Secretary Feliciano Gacis. Manglapus also announced the appointment of Tourism Under Secretary Rafael Alunan as spokesman for the Philippine panel.

Manglapus clarified that while there is still no agenda for the talks, the Philippines will demand that the United States fulfill its financial obligations to the country under the Philippines-U.S. military agreement.

Media Limited on Coverage of Base Talks

HK1105095290 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 11 May 90

[Text] Tourism Under Secretary Rafael Alunan was appointed today by Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus as the official spokesman of the Philippine panel to the exploratory talks due to start at the Central Bank on 14 May.

As the spokesman, Alunan said that media will only be allowed to attend the opening and closing sessions of the talks. Daily press briefings will be held at the Department of Foreign Affairs [DFA] at the Philippine International Convention Center.

Manglapus also named the following as consultants to the exploratory talks: Alan Ortiz of the National Security Council, Ambassador Leonides Caday of the DFA, Manuel Pena of the DFA, Pinky Dalupan of the Peace Commission, and Teresita de Castro of the Department of Justice. Leo M. Herrera Lim was designated secretary general of the exploratory talks.

Meanwhile, the U.S. aid shortfall of 222.58 million dollars will be the main feature of the exploratory talks. Manglapus said the agenda of the talks is not ready yet because they are still awaiting the arrival of the members of the U.S. panel.

Congressman on Issuing Notice Before Bases Talks

HK1105053790 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0400 GMT 11 May 90

[Italicized portion in English]

[Text] Congressman Raul Roco favors serving the notice of termination to the U.S. bases before the talks take place. He said that in so doing, the United States would realize that we have a firm stand even if they decide to withdraw from the Philippines. However, he reiterated that there are two important things to clarify in the talks. They are: the so-called U.S. best efforts and the question of whether or not the outcome would be an executive agreement or a treaty.

[Begin Roco recording] The Manglapus-Shultz agreement states that the $280 million U.S. aid will be granted through best efforts. It means that they will only try to provide us with the assistance and it is not a guarantee or obligation, but best efforts. If we collect the amount from them, the United States can tell us that their obligation is not clearly determined, that the agreement states that they will just try to provide the amount, and they are indeed trying but cannot fulfill it. Therefore, we should ask for this condition. We cannot push for it now because the contract does not concretely mandate it.

Second, *I think the fundamental point in the bases agreement,* which we should not forget, is what the Constitution stipulates. It says that after 1991 there should no longer be any military bases unless a new treaty is made. The first thing the United States should assure is that they will abide by the Philippine Constitution because the military bases are in our territory. [end recording]

Senator Urges U.S. 'Negotiated Withdrawal'

HK1105034990 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 11 May 90 p 11

[Text] Sen. Teofisto Guingona called yesterday for a negotiated withdrawal of U.S. forces to ensure a smooth transition and the protection of the welfare of 65,000 workers now working in the bases.

He asked the government to work out alternative plans for economic zones and international undertakings.

The alternative for the exploratory talks, which start Monday, is to proceed to formal negotiations for a new bases treaty to cover the continuation of Clark Air Base and Subic Naval Base beyond 1991, Guingona said in a privilege speech.

"But this no longer seems viable ... considering that the United States herself is retrenching and closing down bases not only overseas but in the mainland itself," he added.

Congressman Says U.S. 'Trying To Scare' Aquino

HK1105094890 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 11 May 90

[Italicized portions in English]

[Text] Congressman Bonifacio Gillego said that the U.S. Government has no intention to withraw its military bases from the Philippines. According to him, it seems that the United States is trying to scare and pin down the Aquino government to retain their military bases. He cited the coup threats and the report saying that President Aquino and Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos should not run in the 1992 presidential elections because of their weak leadership capabilities.

[Begin recording] [Gillego] Their real purpose is to persuade our government *to allow the Americans to maintain their bases beyond 1991.* Their write-ups are amazing. They say that President Aquino *barely survived a coup attempt with U.S. help.* They project that they helped our government.

[Reporter] So the present administration will no longer be here if they are not around?

[Gillego] Yes. They expect more coup attempts. This situation has resulted in complications in the U.S.-Philippine relations. Their recommendation is amazing and our listeners would probably be surprised. [end recording]

Salonga Spells Out Liberal Party Stand on Bases

HK1105100290 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 11 May 90

[Italicized portions in English]

[Text] The Liberal Party called for the privatization of Subic Naval Base and Clark Air Base after the expiration of the military bases agreement in 1991. At the same time, it also urged Philippine negotiators to draw up a transition plan for the pullout of the U.S. military bases.

Details from Cesar Chavez:

[Begin recording] [Senator Jovito Salonga] *It is not known to the public that 90 percent of the base lands pertaining originally to Clark field have already been returned to the Philippines. And it is not known to a great many people that 70 percent of the Subic base land are already in our possession.*

[Chavez] According to Salonga, 90 percent of Clark Air Base and 70 percent of the Subic Naval base are under the control of the Philippine Government in accordance with the Rusk-Ramos exchange of notes in 1979.

[Salonga] *Therefore, with respect to the 90 percent and 70 percent, the Liberal Party urges an immediate maximization, an immediate conversion of these base lands to civilian use.*

[Chavez] That was Senator Salonga speaking in a press conference in his office at the Senate after the Liberal Party, which he leads, held a caucus to discuss the party's position on the exploratory talks.

[Salonga] *Number two, with respect to the 10 percent that is now Clark field, the Liberal Party understands that there is no serious obstacles to the Americans abandoning Clark field. They have given indications that they are ready in fact to transfer Clark field to the Marianas, specifically Guam island.*

With respect to the 30 percent and the water area of Subic, the Liberal Party is in favor of a privatization scheme. In other words, the repair facilities will be taken over by a private corporation. We urged that the private corporations be owned and controlled by Filipinos, at least to the extent of 60 percent of the capital.

[Chavez] A caucus of the Liberal Party attended by six senators and eleven congressmen agreed to urge the Aquino administration to implement immediate conversion of 90 percent of Clark Air Base and 70 percent of Subic Naval Base—already in Philippine possession—into a comprehensive development area. Meanwhile, the remaining 10 percent of Clark Air Base and 30 percent of Subic Naval Base presently occupied by the U.S. military bases should be privatized by the Aquino government once the Americans have withdrawn from the bases at the expiration of the military bases agreement on 16 September 1991.

[Salonga] *What does this mean, the privatization scheme, with respect to Subic? We can service all U.S. naval vessels. In addition, the vessels of other countries.*

[Chavez] Ten percent of the land occupied by Clark Air Base totals 4,517 hectares while the 30 percent of Subic Naval Base is 6,303 hectares. Senate President Jovito Salonga has more to say.

[Salonga] *Number two [as heard], there will be no layoff or dismissal of Filipino manpower employed in the bases. But effectively, there will no more foreign troops and no more military bases.* [end recording]

Antibases Rally Held in Front of U.S. Embassy

HK1005115590 Quezon City GMA 7 Radio-Television Arts Network in Tagalog 1030 GMT 10 May 90

[From "GMA News" program]

[Text] A large group of government employees and students held a rally in front of the U.S. Embassy this afternoon. The demonstrators, led by members of the Confederation for Unity, Recognition, and Advancement of Government Employees and the League of Filipino Students, were protesting the presence of the U.S. bases in the country. They demanded the removal of the military bases by the Aquino government as soon as possible. One of the spokesmen was Charito Planas.

Military Alert to 14 May National Strike Plan

HK0905090590 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 9 May 90

[By Eloi Aquino]

[Text] The Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP] has alerted all military units nationwide to carry out precautionary measures following a threat by the 1 May Movement [KMU] and other cause oriented groups to launch a nationwide strike on 14 May to coincide with the start of the bases exploratory talks.

Acting AFP chief of staff Major General Rodolfo Biazon, also of the National Capital Region Defense Command, who said that the center of activities will be Metro Manila, issued the statement today. Biazon directed Brigadier General Marino Filart, Capital Regional Command chief, to alert its crowd-dispersal units in preparation for the strike. Biazon added that, while the rebel soldiers threaten to carry out concurrent raids or operations, the AFP is prepared to prevent these. He ordered all military commanders and police officers nationwide to take the necessary security measures for these kind of threats, as he assured the people that the military is prepared to contain any attempt to disrupt the scheduled talks on the U.S. military bases in the country by communist rebels or rebel soldiers. It will be recalled that the militant KMU threatened to launch a national strike to oppose the extension of the U.S. bases in the Philippines. Biazon said:

[Begin recording—in progress] [Biazon] *... chain of activities announced by KMU.*

[Reporter] *Is this nationwide, sir, or just here in Metro Manila?*

[Biazon] *We are expecting that the center of activities will be Manila. They may conduct activities outside of Metro Manila. We are prepared.*

[Reporter] *Do you think that this event would be used by the rebels?*

[Biazon] *Definitely, the rebels are out to make use of any event or incident or issue, but whether or not they are sufficient for them to raise their capability to something like December is another matter.* [end recording]

Editorial Views 'Purposelessness' of U.S. Bases

HK1105042590 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY GLOBE in English 11 May 90 p 4

[Editorial: "The Solitary Gladiator"]

[Text] The worst thing Moscow could do, to paraphrase a Kremlin spokesman, is to deprive Washington of a superpower rival. In the Asia-Pacific region, that is precisely what the Soviet Union is now on the verge of accomplishing.

For example, arrayed against the scores of F-18s, F-15s, F-14s, F-4s, F-5Es and other sophisticated attack aircraft that the United States has permanently deployed in its military facilities in the Philippines are "six to 10 airplanes of nonoffensive capability" that Soviet forces in the process of withdrawing from the *Vietnamese* facility at Cam Ranh Bay have "temporarily left behind." That interesting bit of information was relayed to Filipino newsmen Tuesday by Moscow's personable envoy to Manila Oleg Sokolov. While allowances must be made for the fact that Sokolov is, after all, the ambassador of Washington's long-time adversary, there appears to be no other reason for Filipinos to doubt his motives. Far more dramatic developments have unfolded in Eastern Europe that tend to prove that the Soviet Union is no longer the paranoid "social-imperialist" power seeking to extend the global hegemony of the Tsarist empire it toppled in 1917. To all intents and purposes, the United States now stands alone, the only superpower that continues to rely on its awesome military might to assert its preeminence in world politics.

The last shot of World War II had not yet been fired when rivalry between the U.S. and USSR gave Washington the justification it needed to establish an awesome, strike-the-fear-of-God-in-'em military-industrial complex. That *that* phrase now sounds so out-of-date only underscores vast changes in super-power relations. For nearly 40 years, America could invoke the menacing specter of the Red Army to shadowbox with. Now the U.S. stands alone, like a ridiculous, overarmed gladiator in the middle of an empty arena—with no one to fight.

To regard the Soviet Union's withdrawal from the arms race as a default would not only be a misinterpretation. It would moreover miss the very real potential benefit that the Soviet pullout offers for world peace, as well as the coming into their own of genuinely independent small, militarily weak nations like the Philippines. The notion that colonialism died after World War II is not accurate. Big-power influence over the Third World persisted, premised on the deception that the new nominally independent states still needed the strategic security of either superpower's so-called nuclear umbrella. But that era, too, appears to be coming to an end.

Sokolov said Tuesday that whatever the outcome of the talks between Manila and Washington on the fate of the U.S. bases in the Philippines, Moscow would still proceed with its plans for a full withdrawal from installations in Vietnam and other places in the Asia-Pacific. No longer will America be able to justify its continued military presence in the region by alluding to "the Soviet threat." The threat no longer exists. But if a threat to the region is what some of us are looking for, then there would only be the terrifying U.S. war machine straddling the Philippines, Japan and Korea to consider.

In time, right-thinking Americans would themselves realize the folly, if not the utter absurdity, of maintaining a military presence in the Asia-Pacific. Already, a growing number of them are beginning to regret America's assuming the role of regional policeman. While Washington was allocating billions of dollars to maintain its forces in the region, some of the countries it was supposed to be protecting were turning into economic dragons, breathing the fire of trade deficits on a United States long distracted by the arms race and the bottomless pit of military expenditures.

In their 200-year history as an independent nation, Americans have always shown themselves to be a thoroughly practical, and pragmatic, people. We are, therefore, confident that one day soon the utter purposelessness of their military presence in the Asia-Pacific will strike them. One day soon we are confident that they, too, will put out. And leave us in peace.

Philippine Aircraft Catches Fire on Runway

HK1105091590 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 11 May 90

[Report by Loi Caliwan from Ninoy Aquino International Airport—italicized portions in English]

[Excerpts] [Caliwan] A Philippine Airlines [PAL] Boeing 737 caught fire here at the Manila Domestic Airport. We will get some information on how the fire started on this aircraft bound for Iloilo City.

Good afternoon, General Alejandro. Sir, what happened to this aircraft?

[Alejandro] We do not know anything yet. It happened so fast. The plane was proceeding from the domestic terminal to the stamping pad when an explosion broke out that was immediately followed by a fire. *There is a possibility that there might have been something on board that exploded.* We are looking into this at the moment.

[Caliwan] Sir, may we know where this aircraft was bound?

[Alejandro] *This was flight 143 for Iloilo with 113 passengers. One hundred and 13 passengers.*

[Caliwan] Was anyone hurt?

[Alejandro] Most of them got out. We will not know the exact casualty figures until after the fire is put out and the debris is examined. We will know about that later. [passage omitted]

[Caliwan] The Philippine Airline Boeing 737 which caught fire has been moved to the PAL area. Efforts to drain the aircraft of its gasoline continue. Rescue teams are also here.

Our information shows that four persons—three adults and one child—were trapped in the burning aircraft. The identities of the victims remain unknown. Rescue workers are digging through the aircraft to get the victims out. Firemen continue to look for victims trapped inside the aircraft, which caught fire at 1725 this afternoon. [passage omitted]

PAL Official Interviewed

HK1105092190 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 11 May 90

["Live interview" with Philippine Airlines Vice President for Public Relations Ike Santos by radio anchorman Joe Taruc]

[Excerpt] [Taruc] May we know what the Philippine Airlines [PAL] management is doing about this incident?

[Santos] At present, we are looking after the passengers who were wounded and who have been taken to our clinic and the Makati Medical Center for proper medical attention. We regret that four of our passengers were killed. We are still trying to identify the victims.

[Taruc] This is confirmed now, that four passengers were killed?

[Santos] That was what was reported to me. According to our pilot and cabin crew, an explosion took place in the middle part of the passenger cabin even before the engines of the airplane were started. [passage omitted]

Six Fatalities Confirmed

HK1105101490 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 0900 GMT 11 May 90

[By Jonathan Cristobal]

[Excerpts] An explosion that resulted in a fire inside a Philippine Air Lines plane reportedly took place at the rear end of the plane before taking off. The plane was carrying a total of 143 passengers including the crew—a pilot, co-pilot, and stewardesses. The explosion occurred at 1530. [passage omitted]

The official casualty count as of broadcast time is six, including Ramon Gonzalez, a six-year-old boy.

KMP Chairman Arrested for Embezzling Conviction

HK1005115190 Quezon City GMA 7 Radio-Television Arts Network in Tagalog 1030 GMT 10 May 90

[From "GMA News" program]

[Text] The National Bureau of Investigation today arrested the chairman of the Peasants' Movement of the Philippines [KMP], Jaime Tadeo. Tadeo was arrested by the authority of the Supreme Court regarding a swindling case conviction handed down in the sala of Bulacan acting chief judge Roy Masadaw Jr. in May of 1987. The court found Tadeo guilty of embezzling funds of the National Grains Authority and of selling empty rice sacks, all worth 127,000 pesos, for his own personal interest. Tadeo filed an appeal with the Court of Appeals but lost. The Supreme Court upheld last month's decision sentencing Tadeo to a minimum of four to 18 years imprisonment.

Justice Secretary Franklin Drilon said Tadeo may possibly face a charge of sedition:

[Begin Drilon recording—in progress]...*for the incident that happened last week.* [end recording]

KMU Expresses Concern Over Arrest

HK1005115790 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 10 May 90

[By Deo Macalma]

[Text] The 1 May Movement [KMU] has expressed concern about a crackdown on militant organizations following the arrest of Jaime Tadeo, the chairman of the Peasants Movement of the Philippines, by the National Bureau of Investigations [NBI]. Nick Elman, the KMU spokesman, suspected that the NBI did this in order to stop their plan to launch a national strike on 14 May to protest the holding of exploratory talks on the U.S. military bases. The KMU assured that the protest will be peaceful. Crispin Beltran, KMU national chairman, said they will police their ranks to ensure a peaceful strike.

Earlier, acting-chief of staff Major General Rodolfo Biazon, concerned over possible exploitation by military and communist rebels of the national strike, placed the whole Armed Forces on red alert.

Beltran asked the military and police not to send antiriot squads to prevent tension or confrontation between the military and the demonstrators. The KMU strongly opposed an extension of President Aquino's emergency powers for fear these may be used to totally disband cause-oriented groups.

Aquino Denies Crackdown

HK1105100890 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 11 May 90

[Text] President Aquino has denied accusations of a crackdown on progressive personalities following the arrest of peasant leader Jaime Tadeo. She said that his capture was based on an embezzlement case conviction endorsed by the Supreme Court. She added that this is simply in compliance with the high court's sentence on Tadeo.

She made this explanation after the lawyers of the peasant leader claimed that his arrest was unauthorized because no warrant of arrest was issued.

Tadeo was arrested yesterday by National Bureau of Investigation [NBI] agents in the office of the Peasants' Movement of the Philippines. He was presented by NBI Director Alfredo Lim to members of the media. After explaining the reason for Tadeo's arrest, Lim added that Tadeo is convicted of embezzlement and faces a prison term of 14 years.

Meanwhile, Tadeo claimed that his case was politically motivated, adding that there was no truth to reports about him selling rice and unhusked rice belonging to the National Food Authority because his warehouse where the rice was allegedly stored had just burned down at that time.

As this develops, Justice Secretary Franklin Drilon called up Director Lim and ordered him to move Tadeo to the Muntinlupa jail to avoid further controversies. Before his transfer, Tadeo was able to respond to charges of embezzlement against him. [Tadeo recording indistinct]

Tadeo was transferred to the national penitentiary at 1726 this afternoon. And despite his plea that the transfer be delayed until he met with his lawyer, he was nonetheless moved to the new prison. Accompanying him were his wife Cresencia Tadeo and a son Joshua.

In a related development, a new charge was filed against Tadeo before the Quezon City regional trial court by Assistant City Prosecutor Orlando Beltran. The new charge of sedition according to Article 139, Paragraphs 2 and 3 of the Revised Penal Code was presented against Peasants' Movement of the Philippines Chairman Jaime Tadeo and a number of John Does because of their role in leading a peasants' rally in front of the Department of Agrarian Reform [DAR] building in Quezon City on 3 May 1990.

According to the information sheet submitted by Assistant City Prosecutor Beltran, Tadeo led in challenging and calling on the people to rise up against the DAR, oust the acting Secretary of Agrarian Reform Benjamin Leung, and place closure orders on the doors of the department to protest their alleged failure to work on behalf of the peasants. The same information added that the demonstrators led by Tadeo humiliated the acting agrarian reform secretary, throwing red paint, mud and animal wastes at the DAR building and hitting the acting secretary who was then standing by the gate.

Even though the city prosecutor recommended a bail of 80,000 pesos for the temporary release of the accused, Tadeo's arrest yesterday barred him from posting bail. The other co-accused of Tadeo, all named John Does, are believed to be officials of allied organization of the Peasants' Movement of the Philippines who also took part in the peasants' forum.

INP, Army 'Top' List of Human Rights Violators

HK0905041190 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 9 May 90 p 10

[Text] The Integrated National Police [INP] and the Philippine Army top the list of alleged human rights violators, a Commission on Human Rights report released yesterday by the Department of Foreign Affairs pointed out.

The report, submitted during a closed-door meeting of the Asia-Pacific Workshop on Human Rights, showed that while the overall number of incidents of abuses had decreased, the incidences attributable to the military and law enforcement arms of Government barely improved. From an alleged 395 violations in 1988, the INP was accused of 367 in 1989. Accusations against the Philippine Army dropped to 215 from 265 for the same period while the Philippine Constabulary was impressive with 162 counts against it down from 248.

Complaints against the communist New People's Army, however, dropped from 603 in 1988 to 110 in 1989.

The Civilian Armed Forces Geographical Units [CAFGU] record worsened from a mere 14 in 1988 to 89 while most vigilante groups showed significant reductions. "That may be because these same vigilantes have been absorbed into the CAFGUs," a government official wryly commented.

Cases of summary executions (salvaging) dropped to 352 in 1989 from 540 in 1988. For the same period, disappearances were reduced to 54 from 101, arbitrary detentions went down to 100 from 136 and incidences of torture decreased to 25 from 50. These represent 44.25

of the 1,200 reported human rights violations in 1989.

Commitment

Yesterday, Health Secretary Alfredo Bengzon, at the human rights forum, stressed the country's commitment to the UN Convention Against Torture while pointing out that "no sanctions are ever mentioned regarding non-compliance of the Convention by State Parties." As of November 1989, 48 states have ratified the Convention while 64 others are signatories.

Mr. Bengzon complained that the Convention has "persuasion as the only instrument available to cause improvements in practices and policies involving respect for human rights" even as he acknowledged "the considerable influence on international opinion that can exert pressure on State Parties to observe particular provisions of the Convention."

Significantly, Articles 5, 6, 7 and 8 of the Convention "states that a torturer may be prosecuted wherever he is found in the territory of any State Party to the Convention," Mr. Bengzon pointed out.

This is borrowed from the international principle with regard to crimes against humanity, an observer noted, commenting that this could be invoked against the various "enemies of the state now believed to be taking refuge in other countries."

Navy Chief Orders 'Top-to-Bottom Revamp'

HK0905092990 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 8 May 90 p 8

[By Wilma Yamzon]

[Text] Rear Admiral Mariano J. Dumancas Jr, Philippine Navy (PN) chief, ordered yesterday a top-to-bottom revamp in major staff and field commands of the Navy, following the retirement of several PN officials last month.

The revamp, the first to be effected this month, affected six naval staff posts, two naval district commands, and a Philippine Coast Guard unit. Dumancas said the move was aimed at improving the capability and efficiency of the naval organization.

Designated to key posts were Capt Eduardo T. Domingo, Naval District IV deputy commander to chief of naval staff (CNS); Capt Pablo Perez, CNS to Philippine Fleet at Sangley Point in Cavite; Capt Eriberto Varona from Philippine Fleet (staff officer) to naval staff for plans and programs (N-5); Capt Camilo Santos from PN special studies to naval staff for education and training (N-8); Capt Tirso Rosal, from PN Civil-Military Office (N-7) to chief of naval communications and equipment (N-10); Capt Warlito Chee from N-10 to ordnance and chemicals service; Capt Antonio Suratos, from naval base command to Naval District IV in Palawan; Capt Walter Briones from naval air group to PN logistics (N-4); and Commander Reuben S. Lista, from the Philippine Fleet (staff officer) to the naval information office.

Other officers reshuffled were Capt Eduardo Tolentino, from Bonifacio Naval Station to Naval District II, replacing Commodore Antonio Empedrad, who retired last month; Capt Salvador Peran, from N-5 to 1st Coast Guard District based in Manila, replacing Capt Nap Baylon, who was assigned to Finance and Supply Center in Cavite; Capt Warlito Chee, from N-10 to ordnance and chemical service; Capt Antonio Suratos, commander of Naval Base Cavite, to Naval District IV.

Dumancas also appointed Capt Vicente Escala as commander of Cavite Naval Base, and Capt Antonio F. Paginag head of the PN Computer Center head.

Congress Ratifies Bill To Stabilize Oil Prices

HK0905043590 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] Congress ratified last night a bill allotting five billion pesos to guarantee the stability of the price of gasoline and other fuel products. Malacanang sent word of the readiness of President Aquino to sign into law House Bill No. 27749 immediately after the Senate and the House of Representatives unanimously voted for approval of a bicameral conference committee report on the measure. The joint committee adopted the house measure appropriating the petroleum price standby fund to support the oil price stabilization fund. This would maintain the price of premium gasoline at 7 pesos and 6 centavos per liter as well as the price of other oil products at levels set last December 1st.

Power Situation Improves With New Plants

HK0805021590 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in Tagalog 0100 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] The power situation in the country will continue to improve as the (Tiwi 3) became operational yesterday. It is a geothermal plant in Albay which has a capacity of 55 megawatts. According to the National Power Corporation, Napocor, only 142 megawatts were lacking yesterday.

The power situation started to improve last week as the Sucat II became operational. It has a capacity of 160 megawatts. Napocor is hopeful that its entire 20-megawatt capacity [figure as heard] will be reached, making it operational.

YOU Spokesman Urges All Armed Groups To Unite

HK1105094090 Quezon City NATIONAL MIDWEEK in English 2 May 90 p 37

[Letter signed by Young Officers Union (YOU) spokesman Capt. Carlos Maglalang and published under "Democratic Space" rubric—date and place not given]

[Text] The task of national liberation is a task for all true-meaning nationalists and must involve the broadest participation of the Filipino people to be successful.

We call upon our brother Filipinos in the Communist Party, the New People's Army and the National Democratic Front [NDF] to not just recognize the "emerging patriotic and democratic forces" within the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] as a possible ally in their borrowed protracted people's war under the leadership of the CPP [Communist Party of the Philippines] but more important, to adapt to the present political development by reflecting on the local and Eastern European phenomenon, and to re-direct its struggle by pointing their guns to the real enemy of the Filipino people. Surely, the more than 20 years of struggle of the communist movement (60 years, in fact) is indicative of the weakness, limitation and shortcoming, if not irrelevance and falsity, of Marxism-Leninism and the communist leadership as vanguard of the struggle for national liberation.

This call to unit does not mean, however, that the Filipine soldiers will already embrace the foreign ideology of Marxism-Leniniwm or Communism. We still believe in the genius of our race and our capacity for greatness as a people and as a nation. Hence, while we commit ourselves to the task of Nationalist Revolution to finally overthrow U.S. and all other kinds of imperialism, we refuse to be a pawn of a communist hegemony.

Our unity with the RAM-SFP [Reform the Armed Forces Movement-Soldiers of the Filipino People] is anchored on the principle that the RAM-SFP and other military elements are capable of, and have in fact undergone while others are still in the process of undergoing, value formation and nationalist awakening in the same way that we view and regard the CPP/NPA/NDF, MNLF/BMA [Moro National Liberation Front/Moro Homeland Army] PKP/HMB, [Philippine Communist Party/People's Liberation Army] FRSP/CELF [expansions unknown] and other political and armed groups which are influenced by foreign ideologies as capable of adopting and internalizing Filipinism by rejecting un-Filipino, if not anti-Filipino, elements of their guiding principle.

The December 1st movement did not in fact strengthen the communist insurgency as claimed by some quarters but had rather set it back and weakened it simultaneously with the weakening of the Aquino regime as a result of the emergence of nationalist forces as viable alternative. The uprising only crystallized the glaring truth that the Philippines is a neo-colony of imperialist America and signals the resurgence of Filipino nationalism.

this is the political development which we hope the CPP/NPA/NDF and other revolutionary forces will ponder upon to recast their struggle and face the challenge of genuine national unity to finally bring to conclusion the 1986 Revolution.

We strongly criticize the NPA's propaganda efforts in attracting attention marking its 21st anniversary as unproductive and divisive as it resulted in the senseless killings and unnecessary sacrifices of people's lives just to prop up their sagging popularity—this made them no better than the discredited Aquino regime.

We await for the time when the CPP/NPA/NDF will renounce its dogmatic adherence to communism and declare its faith to Filipinism. Similarly, we await the time when the "socialists" and "capitalists" in our country will abandon their war of the system posturings in the name of national interest, in the name of political liberation, in the name of Filipino nationalism.

We await all classes to transcend class boundaries and converge as Filipinos so that together, we could attain our destined greatness as a people and as a nation.

The Young Officers Union (YOU), in solidarity with the RAM-SFP, calls upon all armed groups to unite under the banner of the all Filipino Patriotic and Democratic Movement to finally advance into conclusion the 1986 Revolution and attain national liberation.
[Signed] Capt. Carlos Maglalang
Spokesman
Young Officers Union (YOU)

Four Civilians Charged With Rebellion Freed

HK0905042290 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 9 May 90 pp 1, 20

[By Rey G. Pangilinan and Roy C. Sinfuego]

[Text] Four more civilians charged with a non-bailable offense of rebellion complexed with other crimes were granted provisional liberty by the Supreme Court early last night.

Meanwhile, civilian lawyers of 21 military officers facing charges in connection with December coup attempt walked out yesterday during the first day of hearing in protest of a military court's ruling rejecting their motion to elevate the jurisdictional issue to the High Court.

Freed temporarily after posting a P[pesos]100,000 bond each were former presidential assistant Joaquin Venus Jr., Edgardo Abenina Jr., Crismel Verano, and customs senior intelligence officer Bienvenido Cepe.

In granting provisional liberty, the Supreme Court noted that the possibility of accused "fleeing from or evading the processes of our courts appears fairly remote." In the case of Venus and Cepe, the High Court noted their "poor medical condition."

Four justices voted to deny the plea for provisional liberty. They are Chief Justice Marcelo B. Fernan and Justices Andres R. Narvasa, Irene R. Cortez, and Carolina C. Grino Aquino.

Justices Florentino P. Feliciano, Teodoro R. Padilla, and Leo D. Medialdea abstained.

Those who voted to grant provisional liberty to the four accused were Justices Ameurfina A. Melencio Herrera, Hugo A. Gutierrez Jr., Isagani A. Cruz, Edgardo L. Paras, Abdulwahid A. Bidin, Abraham F. Sarmiento, and Florenz D. Regalado.

The High Court acted on the habeas corpus petition filed by the four accused.

Cepe was charged with rebellion complexed with murder and multiple frustrated murder in connection with the takeover of the South Harbor last December 1 the first day of the failed coup. He was charged together with former Lt. Col. Billy Bibit who escaped from his detention cell at the Manila City Jail last month.

Venus, Verano, and Abenina Jr. were charged together with former assembly man Homobono Adaza. They were indicated as alleged coup plotters based on affidavits executed by former Southern Luzon Command (Solcom) chief Brig. Gen. Alejandro A. Galido. The four accused are set for arraignment on May 29. Their cases were filed by prosecutors of the Department of Justice (DOJ) with the Quezon City Regional Trial Court (RTC).

Earlier, the High Court granted provisional liberty to Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile, retired Gen. Felix Brawner and hotelier Enrico and Erlinda Panlileo.

Their petitions for habeas corpus are still pending resolution by the High Court.

NPA Members Identified in Mayor's Killing

HK1005114790 Quezon City Sports Radio 738 in English 1100 GMT 10 May 90

[Text] The military today identified three suspects in the ambush killing of Mayor Roger Aguirre of Malay, Aklan and his three bodyguards. The suspects were identified as Casimiro Cahilio, alias Comrade Romy; Comrade Bong, and Comrade Mike. The three are all members of the New People's Army [NPA]. The suspects were identified by one of the witnesses, the son of the barangay captain of Napaan, Malay, Aklan.

Military Seeks Logging Ban in Mindanao

HK1005104390 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 10 May 90

[By Eloi Aquino]

[Text] The military is set to make representations to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources in an effort to ban logging operations in Southern Mindanao, believed to be the primary source of funds for the NPA.

Philippine Constabulary-Integrated National Police [PC-INP] chief Major General Cesar Nazareno said that the move is in reaction to confirmed reports from Region 11 field commanders that logging companies and other small-scale logging operators have been buying illegally obtained logs from the New People's Army [NPA].

PC-INP Regional Command 11 commander, Brigadier General Mariano Baccay Jr., reported to General Nazareno that the NPA has been selling illegal logs worth millions of pesos to logging companies in Surigao del Sur. According to General Baccay, the sudden influx of NPA rebels in Surigao del Sur from Agusan is an indication that they have found a good place to live, away from military operations, and found ways to support their financial needs. Baccay added that, according to intelligence reports, the base of the main CPP-NPA regional guerilla unit had been transferred to Surigao del Sur because the area provides a good potential source of funds. Despite declining funding from the people in the form of progressive taxation, the rebels continue to launch terroristic activities in the area.

Bicol Rebels Step Up Propaganda, Offensive

HK0805053390 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0500 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] Communist guerillas in the Bicol region are conducting an extensive propaganda drive while their counterparts elsewhere carry on with their summer offensive. This was revealed by Colonel Norberto Lina, constabulary regional officer in charge.

Colonel Lina added that the communist rebels in the region are probably aware of the military's stepped up campaign against them. According to Lina, intelligence source shows dwindling numbers of communist rebels in the region.

Mindanao Separatists Agree to United Struggle

HK1005031590 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 10 May 90 p 8

[By Jay L. Valleser]

[Text] Cagayan de oro City—Separatist organizations in Mindanao led by the Mindanao Independence Movement (MIM) have agreed to unite and coordinate their struggle to "end Philippine colonialism in their homeland and establish the free and independent State of Mindanao," sources said.

Lorie de la Serna, MIM secretary-general, said that the various separatist parties have agreed to establish three military commands in Mindanao to pursue their objective. The 1st military command is composed of the Soldiers of the People of Mindanao under Reuben R. Canoy; the 2nd military command to be composed of the Bangsamoro Forces under Alfatah Abubakar of the Moro National Liberation Front [MNLF]; and the 3rd military command to be composed of tribal forces under Datu Mampatilan. Cashiered Col. Alexander Noble, representing the Rebolusyonaryong Alyansang Makabayan [Revolutionary Nationalist Alliance] (RAM), also signed the agreement.

Coordinating the operations of these three military commands is a seven-man Mindanao military council [MMC]. De la Serna said that the three military commands through the MMC will direct, unify, and coordinate military efforts in support of the general plan for the establishment of the Federal Bangsamoro Mindanao Republic. "The State of Mindanao that we envisioned shall be free and independent state, and not merely an autonomous region of the Philippines under a unitary form of government, or a state of the Philippines under a federal form of government," De la Serna said.

Signatories to the joint communique announcing the agreement include Canoy for the Soldiers of the People of Mindanao; Noble for the RAM; the Bangsamoro Mujahideen represented by Alfatah Abbakar, Boy Manurba, and Commander Solitario, all of the MNLF; Tony Falcon of the MILF [Moro Islamic Liberation Front], Amirhassan Sayyaddi of the MNLF-Reformist group; and Datu Mampatilan of the Mindanao Tribal Forces.

Government Opposes EEC Tariff Rebalancing Plan

HK0705094590 Manila THE PHILIPPINE STAR in English 6 May 90 p 14

[Text] The Philippine government is opposing a move by the European Economic Community (EEC) to "rebalance" tariffs of imported items. The move is expected to adversely affect exports of coconut products to the EEC.

Philippine agricultural attache to the EEC Vic Leviste said they will strongly lobby against an EEC proposal to replace subsidies with rebalancing which, he said, will not change things for the country.

Under the EEC proposal to the Uruguay Round of negotiations reviewing the General Agreement on Tariff and Trade (GATT), tariffs on exports of cereals to the EEC will be reduced while those on exports of oil seeds, seed oil and oil meal which include copra, coconut oil, and copra meal and copra cake will be increased.

However, Leviste pointed out that there is no rebalancing at all since the Philippines does not export cereals to the EEC while coconut products at present are duty free, whether for industrial or direct consumption.

From January to April this year, the Philipines exported 313,505 metric tons of coconut oil valued at $120 million, followed by copra meal with 183,668 metric tons at $18.4 million, and copra at 33,150 metric tons valued at $8.07 million. The Philippines exports the bulk of the coconut oil to the U.S. followed by the EEC but the latter continues to absorb the bulk of Philippine exports of copra meal and copra.

It was also noted that the EEC will not readily give up its subsidies to its agricultural producers even if the rebalancing scheme gains approval from GATT.

Under the subsidy system, EEC farmers are assured to get prices much higher than world market prices. The EEC subsidizes the difference.

Aside from the tariff problem, the aflatoxin issue continues to pose a major problem to Philippine exporters. At present, Philippine copra meal is priced $5 to $12 lower than Indonesian copra meal, mainly because of the "aflatoxin scare," which is said to be blown out of proportion.

Aflatoxin is a cancer-causing substances that thrives in moldy or improperly dried copra, which is ground into a meal and mixed with cattle feed. Aflatoxin is not eliminated by cooking, and Europeans feel that the substance may be ingested by humans.

The Philippines exports around 500,000 metric tons a year of copra meal valued at $2.5 million, mainly to Netherlands and Germany.

EEC imposes a 50 parts per billion [ppb] allowable aflatoxin content for copra meal, although this may go to as low as 30 ppb.

It was learned that EEC importers are willing to buy Philippine copra meal only at a much lower price than those from other countries even before the products are checked or examined at the port. Thus, if the copra meal turns out to be of good quality, there is no premium for the Philippines.

Philippine government officials claim that the aflatoxin content of local copra meal is getting lower because of massive information drive by coconut oil refiners on proper copra drying and handling. Still the EEC could not be blamed if it succumbs to the scare, observers said.

It was suggested that bilateral negotiations be made between the Philippine government and the governments of Netherlands and Germany so that the problem may be solved.

'Indicator' Views Trade Imbalance With Australia

HK0905041390 Manila BUSINESS STAR in English 9 May 90 p 2

["Indicator" column by Rica D. Delfinado: "Philippine Trade Deficit with Australia Widens by 70%"]

[Text] Efforts to reverse the country's trade imbalance with Australia, in the red since 1984, do not seem to be paying off as Philippine exports to Australia performed dismally in the first month of this year.

This decline in exports performance resulted in the further expansion of the country's balance of trade (BOT) deficit with the "Land Down Under," according to latest Central Bank (CB) data.

The CB statistics indicated that Philippine exports to Australia stood at $7 million in January this year, a 12.5% decline from the $8 million logged in the same period last year. In contrast, Philippine imports from Australia totaled $24 million, a hefty 33.3% expansion from $18 million in 1989.

From this arose a BOT deficit for the country of $17 million, an amount 70% more than last year's shortfall of $10 million for the month.

January's deficit alone demolished what little gains were posted for the whole of last year when the trade gap shrank by $11 million from $21 million in 1988.

The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) had earlier projected that the country would earn $126 million from the sale of local goods to Australia in 1989. This, however, was never attained as recently-released figures indicate that the country got only $124 million, or 1.5% lower than the expected foreign inflow.

Also, on a year-to-year basis, the country incurred the highest balance of trade deficit last year at $223 million. This was 29.6% more than the $172 million shortfall registered in the previous year.

Still, the $124 million actual exports earnings last year was 11.75% more than the $111 million in export income registered the previous year.

And latest projections from the Australian Trade Commission show that total trade between the Philippines and Australia is expected to reach $500 million this year, or a substantial 6.15% expansion from the $471 million noted in 1989.

But this figure may be difficult to achieve considering that the Philippines has been performing badly in its trade with Australia since 1984, a condition a recent study entitled "A Marketing Plan and Strategy Report for the Expansion of Philippine Exports to Australia" has attributed to the unpopularity of local exports with many Australian importers.

This condition, the study said, has been the making of Filipino exporters themselves who, the Australians think, are interested only in such large markets as the U.S. and Japan and would sell to them only if they have excess stock.

Another thing going against Filipino exporters in Australia is their penchant for canceling orders in favor of larger ones from the U.S. in particular. The orders which local exporters do honor, meanwhile, suffer delays in delivery because of the difficulty of clearing them through Philippine Customs.

But the biggest problem confronting Filipino exporters in Australia is that for many Philippine products, FOB [free on board] prices are 5%-15% higher than those of competitors like Thailand. This means that in terms of FOB prices alone, Philippine products could no longer compete that much in the Australian market.

According to the DTI, the most sought after local goods in the Australian market are furniture and fixtures; fashion accessories and travel goods; garments; traditional and non traditional food exports and forest products.

6-Billion Pesos in Development Projects Approved

HK0905104390 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 1000 GMT 9 May 90

[Text] President Corazon Aquino today approved a 6-billion pesos development project, after meeting with the National Economic Development Authority [NEDA] board. The projects were endorsed by the NEDA's investment coordinating committee. Tanny Rodriguez has the details:

[Begin recording] The projects are the northern Mindanao development framework and the Metro-Cagayan de Oro special development project, which includes the Basilan-Sulu-Tawi Tawi roads; air navigation facilities; solid waste management programs for Metro Manila; a fresh-water supply, sewage, and sanitation sector project; and family planning assistance program.

According to presidential spokesman Adolf Azcuna, the Metro-Cagayan special development project is the fourth project funded under the Philippine Assistance Program in line with an effort to develop the province. The Basilan-Sulu-Tawi Tawi roads project was allocated over 436 million pesos; the air navigation facilities, over 358 million pesos; the solid waste management program for Metro Manila, over 3.5 billion pesos; the fresh-water supply, sewerage, and sanitation projects, over 829 million pesos; and the family planning assistance program has a fund of about 40 billion dollars [as heard] for this year. [end recording]

Vietnam

10th Joint Vietnam-U.S. MIA Search Reported

BK1005154090 Hanoi VNA in English 1525 GMT 10 May 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 10—From April 20 to May 10, Vietnamese and U.S. specialists conducted the 10th joint search for information about 12 American airmen reportedly missing in action during the Vietnam war.

This time, the two sides excavated crash sites in the central provinces of Quang Binh and Quang Tri, to look for the remains of a number of American pilots confirmed killed.

The U.S. specialists appreciated the effective cooperation and assistance of the local authorities and people wherever they conducted the search. They left Hanoi today.

Dinh Nho Liem Leaves Beijing, Stops in Bangkok

PRC Spokeswoman on Ties

BK1105045590 Beijing International Service in Vietnamese 1400 GMT 10 May 90

[Text] In her 10 May news conference, Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokeswoman Li Jinhua said: On 8 May Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen received Vietnam's First Deputy Foreign Minister Dinh Nho Liem who arrived in Beijing to inspect the work of the Vietnamese embassy in China. While in Beijing, he was received and feted by Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Tian Zengpei. Deputy Foreign Minister Dinh Nho Liem also exchanged views with Assistant Chinese Foreign Minister Xu Dunxin on a comprehensive political solution to the Cambodian issue. This informal exchange of views was useful, for it has helped enhance mutual understanding and achieve some identity of views. However, on important matters, certain differing views still persist. The two sides will hold further negotiations.

When asked by newsmen if in this meeting there was any discussion on the normalization of Sino-Vietnamese relations, the spokeswoman said: Everyone knows that the main obstacle to the normalization of Sino-Vietnamese relations is the Cambodian issue. Only when the Cambodian issue is settled in a fair and reasonable manner will Sino-Vietnamese relations improve.

A reporter asked: Samdech Norodom Sihanouk said he would take a long leave of absence and would no longer hold the positions of leader of the Cambodian resistance forces and president of Cambodia. Does China have any comment on this matter?

The spokeswoman said we always respect the views of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk.

Hanoi Reports Results

BK1105061390 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 11 May 90

[Text] Vietnamese Deputy Foreign Minister Dinh Nho Liem said in Bangkok on 10 May that his talks with Chinese officials in Beijing on the normalization of Sino-Vietnamese relations was useful and fruitful. Mr. Dinh Nho Liem arrived in Bangkok on the evening of 10 May from Beijing on a short stopover en route to Hanoi.

He told AFP: The Cambodian issue continues to be an obstacle to the normalization of relations between Vietnam and China. However, his trip to China this time was more useful than the previous two rounds of talks last year. He said: We now understand each other's views although differences still persist between us. We share the same opinions on certain matters. He declined to elaborate. Mr. Dinh Nho Liem said: Hanoi and Beijing have agreed to hold another round of talks as soon as possible, perhaps a few months from now.

AFP Cites Comments

BK1105025290 Hong Kong AFP in English 1915 GMT 10 May 90

[Text] Bangkok, May 10 (AFP)—Vietnamese Deputy Foreign Minister Dinh Nho Liem said here Thursday [10 May] that his talks with Chinese officials in Beijing on normalization of Sino-Vietnamese ties were "useful and effective."

Mr. Liem arrived in Bangkok late Thursday from Beijing for a short stopover on his way back to Hanoi. He told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that the Cambodian issue remained a stumbling block for the normalization of Sino-Vietnamese ties, but his latest visit to China was "more useful" than two earlier rounds of talks last year. "We understand each other's standing points. Although there still remain some differences between us, we have common views on certain issues," he said without elaborating further.

Longtime rivals Beijing and Hanoi are key players in the Cambodian conflict. China provides massive military support to the Khmer Rouge, the most powerful of three allied Cambodian guerrilla factions fighting to topple the Vietnam-installed Phnom Penh government. Mr. Liem, who travelled to Beijing on May 3, had visited the Chinese twice in 1989 in a bid to open dialogue. His second visit in May last year ended with both sides agreeing to disagree on Cambodia issue.

Mr. Liem said that Beijing and Hanoi agreed to hold another round of talks "as soon as possible" which could be in several months' time. "I can tell you that it is not that Vietnam needed to talk to China only. China also needed to talk to us... Just wait and see," he said. He said he did not agree with a Chinese statement that Sino-Vietnamese ties could be normalized only after the Cambodian issue was settled. "Our view is that both sides should discuss parallelly both the normalization of relations and the Cambodian problem," he said.

Nguyen Van Linh Receives Japanese Guests

BK1005082090 Hanoi VNA in English 0751 GMT 10 May 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 9—Michio Watanabe, member of the Japanese House of Representatives, and Kogi Kakizawa member of the house and chairman of its External Relations Committee, visited Vietnam from May 6-8.

During their visit, the Japanese guests were received on separate occasions by Nguyen Van Linh, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee; Do Muoi, chairman of the Council of Ministers; and Nguyen Co Thach, foreign minister.

Representative Michio Watanabe exchanged views with Phan Van Khai, chairman of the Vietnamese State Planning Committee; and Dau Ngoc Xuan, chairman of the State Committee for Cooperation and Investment. The two sides discussed measures for broadening bilateral relations [words indistict] the progress of settlement of the Cambodia issue and to peace and stability in the region.

Thai Commerce Minister Interviewed on Trade

BK1005125990 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 8 May 90

[Station correspondent's interview with visiting Thai Commerce Minister Subin Pinkhayan; place and date not given—recorded in Thai and fading into Vietnamese translation]

[Text] [Correspondent] Your Excellency, will you please elaborate on the purpose of your visit to Vietnam?

[Subin Pinkhayan] The visit to Vietnam by the Thai trade delegation is aimed at responding to Thai Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan's wish to restore peace in Indochina and to make our region a zone of economic and trade cooperation. The Thai private economic sector has also participated in promoting trade relations between Thailand and Vietnam. As a result, the visit will also help strengthen the Thai private traders' confidence and support their trade with Vietnam. This is a good occasion for the Thai delegation to meet with high-ranking officials of the Vietnamese Government. We also note that Vietnam has changed its economic policy, thus it offers a chance for the Thai delegation to study, on the spot, the current situation and the new policy. We will exchange views with Vietnamese officials on bilateral trade cooperation.

I have met with the Vietnamese minister of agriculture. We exchanged experiences on agricultural production. Thailand and Vietnam are agricultural production countries. I hope the exchange of experiences on production and technology will help both sides increase their agricultural productivity. We talked about joint ventures in the production and processing of agricultural products, especially those of the Thai private economic sector and Vietnamese production establishments in planting and producing canned pineapple for export and in improving sericulture. The Thai private sector will be informed of all these details.

I also met with the Vietnamese commerce minister to exchange views on bilateral trade relations. We exchanged information on the Thai economic developing situation and the Vietnamese Ministry of Commerce's policy on more liberal expansion of trade relations. Regarding the production of agricultural products and their markets, we realize that Thailand and Vietnam have produced similar products, especially rice. We will further discuss the situation of our production and the market. We believe this will benefit both sides and help us sell our rice and other agricultural products in the world market at better prices.

[Correspondent] Will Your Excellency appraise the trade relations between Thailand and Vietnam during the past period and their prospects for the future?

[Subin Pinkhayan] Trade relations between Thailand and Vietnam during the past few years have developed rapidly. In 1988, the trade value between our two countries was about 400 million Thai baht. Thailand's export value to Vietnam accounted for 120 million baht while Vietnam's export value to Thailand was 240 million baht [figures as heard]. In 1989, Thai export value to Vietnam increased to 420 million baht and Vietnamese export value to Thailand reached 1,200 million baht. This shows that in only one year's time the trade growth has increased four to five times. This is an encouraging sign. I hope the Thai trade delegation's current visit to Vietnam will create favorable conditions for us to further develop our bilateral trade relations, especially trading in more raw materials that Thailand is ready to import from Vietnam.

[Correspondent] Thank you very much, Your Excellency.

Regulations To Promote Investment Planned

BK0905031990 Bangkok THE NATION in English 9 May 90 p 2

[By Chirawat Krongkaeo]

[Text] Ho Chi Minh City—Vietnam plans to introduce specific regulations at the end of this month to govern foreign investment projects in a bid to promote some 200 projects currently planned by foreign companies, Vietnamese officials have disclosed. These regulations will cover Vietnamese workers attached to foreign firms, foreign consultancies, land leases, use of water supplies, price-setting and income taxes, and use of indigenous natural resources, among others, and will adhere to the foreign investment policy announced earlier by Hanoi economic reformers.

Dau Ngoc Xuan, chairman of a committee for cooperation and national investment, told a Thai delegation headed by Commerce Minister Subin Pinkhayan that the regulations will definitely come out by the end of this month as part of Hanoi's effort to open up its economy. The Vietnamese official said the lack of these regulations has delayed many foreign companies from embarking on their projects, although a total of 220 projects have been proposed.

Prospective foreign investors came to Vietnam in large numbers when Hanoi announced its policy to welcome foreign investments and enacted a broad investment law in 1988. The following year saw the number of applicants from foreign firms shoot up 21 times, including about 105 projects that sought approval from the committee on cooperation and national investment. Officials said these 105 projects are worth a combined US$852 million (about Bt22.1 billion). To date, about 70 projects have won approval and are being carried out by foreign companies. They said most projects involve either mineral prospecting and manufacture consumer goods. Altogether, it is estimated that these projects will create about 10,000 jobs in Vietnam. Projects proposed by Thai investors include hotels and transport services, proposed by Thaninee Trading Co; tourist agencies, Sea Tour Co and Diethelm Co; shrimp farming, Marine Industry Co; and agri-industries, Charoen Pokphand Co.

Talks Held on Welfare Cooperation With Cambodia

BK0905100690 Hanoi VNA in English 0657 GMT 9 May 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 9—The Cambodian Minister of Social Welfare and Veterans Koy Buntha and his party have held talks with a delegation of the Ministry of Labour, War Invalids and Social Welfare led by Minister Tran Dinh Hoan on the two countries' cooperation in social welfare in 1990.

The talks was based on the two governments' agreement on economic, cultural, scientific and technological cooperation signed in Phnom Penh on January 4, 1990.

The Cambodian delegation arrived here on May 2. It toured a number of establishments of the labour and social welfare service in various localities. It also visited, and presented gifts to, disabled soldiers, and families of fallen combatants who had been on internationalist mission in Cambodia.

The Cambodian guests were received on May 8 by Nguyen Khanh, member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, vice chairman and secretary general of the Council of Ministers. Also present at the reception was Cambodian Ambassador Tep Hen.

Do Muoi Meets With Indonesian Businessman

BK1005151690 Hanoi VNA in English 1454 GMT 10 May 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 10—Chairman of the Council of Ministers Do Muoi received here Wednesday [9 May] William Suryajaya, president of the P.T. Astra and Summa group of Indonesia, who has been here on a working visit.

The Vietnamese chairman welcomed the P.T. Astra and Summa president's Vietnam visit as a contribution to further developing friendship and cooperation between Vietnam and Indonesia.

Chairman Do Muoi asked William Suryajaya to convey his regards to President Suharto and other Indonesian leaders.

Present at the reception were Vice Chairman of the State Planning Commission Hoang Tuan Nghiem and Indonesia Ambassador to Vietnam Aswismarmo.

National Assembly Delegation Leaves for Australia

BK0805160190 Hanoi VNA in English 1536 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 8—A delegation of the Vietnamese National Assembly led by its chairman Le Quang Dao left here today for an official visit to Australia.

It was seen off at the Presidential Palace by Nguyen Huu Tho, vice president of the State Council; Nguyen Khanh, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers; and others.

Australian Ambassador to Vietnam Graham Richard Alliband was also on hand.

Spokesman Blames Israel for Middle East Tension

BK1005150090 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 10 May 90

[Text] In reply to a question raised by a VNA correspondent about Vietnam's attitude toward tension recently created in the Middle East by the imperialists and the Israeli reactionaries against Iraq, Libya, and Palestine, a spokesman for the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry said:

The Israeli reactionaries' intensification of their menacing campaign against Arab countries and their suppression of the Palestinian people's uprising are making the Middle East situation more complicated. Now, as always, the Vietnamese people are determined to support the just struggle of the peoples of Palestine, Iraq, Libya, and other Arab countries against all the schemes and acts of interference and aggression by Israel and imperialism in order to regain and defend national independence and sovereignty and a lasting peace in the region.

Machine Tools Exported to Socialist Countries

BK1005135590 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 6 May 90

[Text] In April, the Ministry of Heavy Industry's machine tools factory signed contracts to export its products to the Soviet Union, Cuba, the GDR, and Czechoslovakia worth more than 600,000 rubles, or almost 30 percent of its annual production. The factory has delivered the first batch of its products worth almost 300,000 rubles to these clients and will deliver the rest early next month. The factory also produces high-quality products for export to Southeast Asian countries and puts out diversified items to meet domestic demands. For the past four months, the factory has earned an income of more than 1.2 billion dong and has contributed to state revenue more than 95 million dong.

Do Muoi Addresses Nghe Tinh Party Leaders

BK1005102590 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 9 May 90

[Text] Comrade Do Muoi, member of the party Political Bureau and chairman of the Council of Ministers, recently paid a working visit to Nghe Tinh Province to perform his duty as a National Assembly deputy toward voters and to inspect the preparations for the celebration of President Ho Chi Minh's birth centenary.

While on his visit to Sen village, Chairman Do Muoi wrote in a visitors book: President Ho Chi Minh lives forever in the hearts of the people in Vietnam and the world. His thought will forever lead us on the path toward successfully building socialism and firmly defending the socialist Vietnamese fatherland.

Speaking at a working session with the provincial party leadership, the standing bodies of the provincial people's council and people's committee, the voters of Vinh city and Nghi Xuan District, and the key cadres of Ha Tinh provincial city, Chairman Do Muoi emphatically said: This year our country and many areas throughout the world are celebrating President Ho Chi Minh's birth centenary. As Nghe Tinh is the hometown of Uncle Ho, the party organization and people of Nghe Tinh must, more than anyone else, take the lead in implementing Uncle Ho's instructions as outlined in his testament by launching an emulation movement for productive labor and practice of thrift. They must try to successfully carry out the state budgetary plan for 1990 in order to obtain achievements to welcome the seventh party congress.

Chairman Do Muoi also urged Nghe Tinh to thoroughly realize the role and position of the people's councils at various levels as the highest local organs of power. As they have just been consolidated and strengthened, people's councils must satisfactorily perform their functions of decision-making and exercising supervision over the administration and the people in the enforcement of the law and other legal documents, advocacies, and policies already promulgated by various organs of power. In the course of its work supervision, the local administration must strictly abide by the law.

International Symposium on Ho Chi Minh Opens

BK1005154590 Hanoi VNA in English 1506 GMT 10 May 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 10—An international symposium under the theme "Ho Chi Minh—Staunch Fighter of the National Liberation and International Communists and Workers Movements" was opened here today by the Vietnam Institute of Marxism-Leninsim and the Hanoi Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV].

The symposium was attended by Vietnamese scholars and researchers, and delegates of the Soviet Institute of Marxism-Leninism, the Institutes of Marxism-Leninism and the Commission for Social Science of Laos, and the Party History Research Board of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea.

Addressing the inaugural session, Dao Duy Tung, Politburo member and secretary of the CPV Central Committee, highlighted the ideological and moral values legated by President Ho Chi Minh. He said:

"It is very important to shed more light on the path chosen by President Ho Chi Minh and on his objective and ideal as well as their scientific bases, particularly in the current situation in which socialist countries are facing a serious crisis, imperialism is fiercely attacking socialism, and there have appeared sceptics in our ranks who have given up the chosen path."

He continued: "Ho Chi Minh's greatest ideological value lies in the fact that he has closely combined national indepentence with socialism, which was later referred to by the Communist Party of Vietnam as the [words indistinct] of the two banners of national independence and socialism."

"What makes Ho Chi Minh a great man is not only his creative theory, his judicious strategic and tactical decisions, and his persistent, tireless and effective organisational activities, but also his revolutionary virtues and lifestyle," Dao Duy Tung affirmed.

Taking the floor, Gen. [General] Vo Nguyen Giap, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers, one of the Vietnamese leaders who was lucky enough to work many years beside President Ho, said:

"Through all his revolutionary life, President Ho Chi Minh, a strategist of genius of the Vietnamese Revolution, developed creatively and enriched Marxism-Leninism not only in the revolutionary theory on national liberation but also in the theory of socialist revolution and in the forming of people of a new type.

"President Ho Chi Minh, a great patriot and the first Vietnamese communist, is the noble symbol of humanism of the new times. That humanism is borne out in his boundless love for the people and mankind. His love for the human kind is as deep as the sea but is also very practical in the daily life, from small deeds to a great cause, all harmoniously combined in his person.

"That humanism is also manifested in his belief in human creativeness and conscience, in his tireless efforts to restore dignity to his people and dignity and freedom to all oppressed nations. Humanism in President Ho Chi Minh is his concern, his love and care for each people in Vietnam and the world over, his love for his comrades, fellow countrymen, and the people in all continents.

"Today, under the banner of national independence and socialism, the Vietnamese people are creatively developing President Ho Chi Minh ideology, and learning from his morality they are engaged in a comprehensive renovation along the line of the 6th Congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam aimed at making Vietnam a peaceful, unified, independent, democratic and prosperous country.

"Following the victory of the socialist revolution and national democratic revolution, fundamental freedoms and democracy have been achieved at different levels by people in many countries, through recent changes in a number of socialist countries, there have appeared tendencies to anarchic freedoms, extremist democracy, national and racial discrimination, and even neofascism... [ellipses as received]

"Along with the gains of the scientific and tecnological revolution, humanity is making giant steps in intellectual progress. The productive forces and social labour productivity are developing tremendously. Yet, in the capitalist world, trans-national monopolies are exploiting to the fullest the 'grey matter' and taking advantage of the scientific achievements to grab more and more surplus value created by scientists and managerial cadres and the numerous contingents of technicians. So, along with the abundance of wealth, there have appeared moral degeneration, the decline of the physical and spiritual strength and widespread social vices and environmental pollution."

Directive Issued on Alcoholic Beverage Production

BK1005142590 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 10 May 90

[Text] At present, besides those state-run enterprises with permits to produce alcoholic beverages, many establishments belonging to the nongovernmental economic sector have also engaged in alcoholic beverage production and sale although they have no business licenses, do not register their product quality, and do not pay tax.

In order to exercise control over these establishments and to protect consumers' health, the chairman of the Council of Ministers recently issued a directive governing the granting of business licenses and the imposition of tax on alcoholic beverage production and sale from the nongovernmental economic sector. The directive points out: There are only two categories of establishments permitted to produce alcoholic beverages, namely those alcoholic beverage factories long recognized by customers and those with technical standards capable of ensuring product quality and hygienic conditions. These establishments must comply with all state stipulations governing business control.

The chairman of the Council of Ministers assigns the people's committees of various provinces, cities, and special zones under the jurisdiction of the central government with the duty of considering and granting business licenses; the Quality Standard Survey Department with the duty of organizing registrations, inspections, and control over product quality and production methods; and the Ministry of Finance with the duty of providing guidance for the compilation and keeping of sale certificates and of organizing tax collection. Those establishments with no business permits who continue to produce alcoholic beverages and who violate quality standards and evade tax shall be duly dealt with, including prosecution before the court of law.

Paper Reports Opium Smuggling Rings in Hanoi

BK1005145590 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1000 GMT 6 May 90

[From the press review program for 6 May]

[Text] The paper HANOI MOI today frontpages an article on the situation of opium smuggling and smoking in Hanoi. The article says: There are hundreds of illegal rings smuggling opium to and from Hanoi to localities. Leaders of the rings are professional opium smugglers. Noteworthy is that opium smugglers are not drug addicts while the real victims are young people who are inclined to challenges. Although efforts have been made to eliminate the crime, the number of opium smugglings and opium smoking dens in Hanoi has not decreased. This has caused tragedies for individuals and families and has posed a dangerous threat to our generation. The article calls on all people's strata, especially parents of drug addicts, to participate in the struggle to eliminate this social vice.

Hanoi Reviews Insect Infestation Nationwide

BK1005035390 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 2 May 90

[Summary] According to the Crop Planting and Vegetation Protection Department, "small leafrollers, brown planthoppers, white rice leafhoppers, rice blast, and aphelenchoides oryza have affected some 300,000 hectares of the winter-spring rice in the northern provinces."

"Since 20 April, peasants have launched a campaign to protect the winter-spring rice. Thai Binh and Hai Hung Provinces have sprayed large doses of insecticide in an effort to get rid of small leafrollers and various kinds of planthoppers, thus gradually containing crop infestation." The same efforts have been made by peasants in Thanh Hoa, Nghe Tinh, and Ha Nam Ninh Provinces.

"In the south, brown planthoppers have continued to affect the late winter-spring rice in the Trung Bo provinces. Meanwhile, small planthoppers have damaged part of the late winter-spring and early summer-fall rice in the Mekong River Delta provinces." Army weevils, stem borers, and paddy bugs have appeared in other localities and have ravaged part of the summer-fall rice. All localities are reminded of the need to take appropriate measures to effectively protect rice and other crops from harmful insects and diseases.